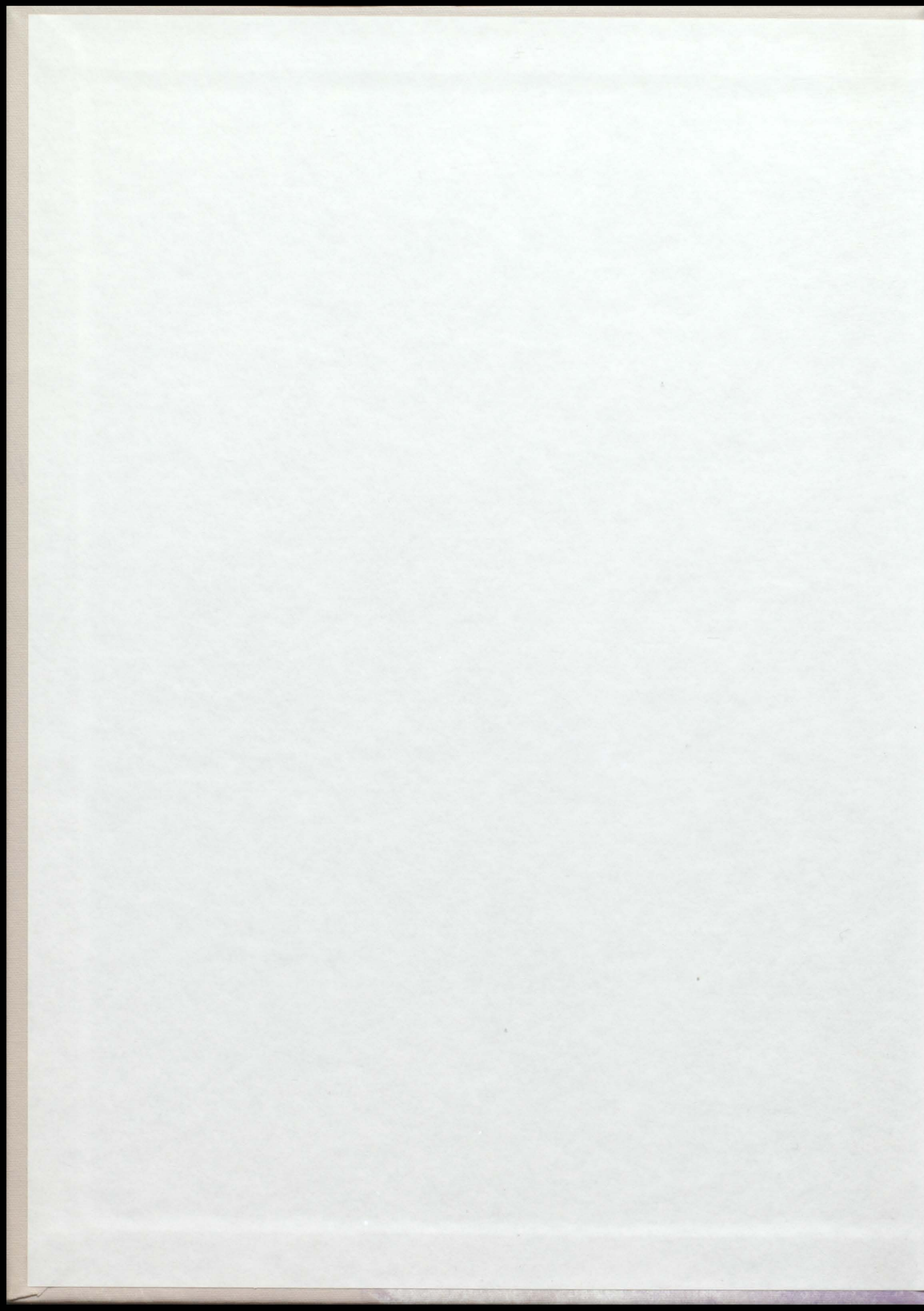
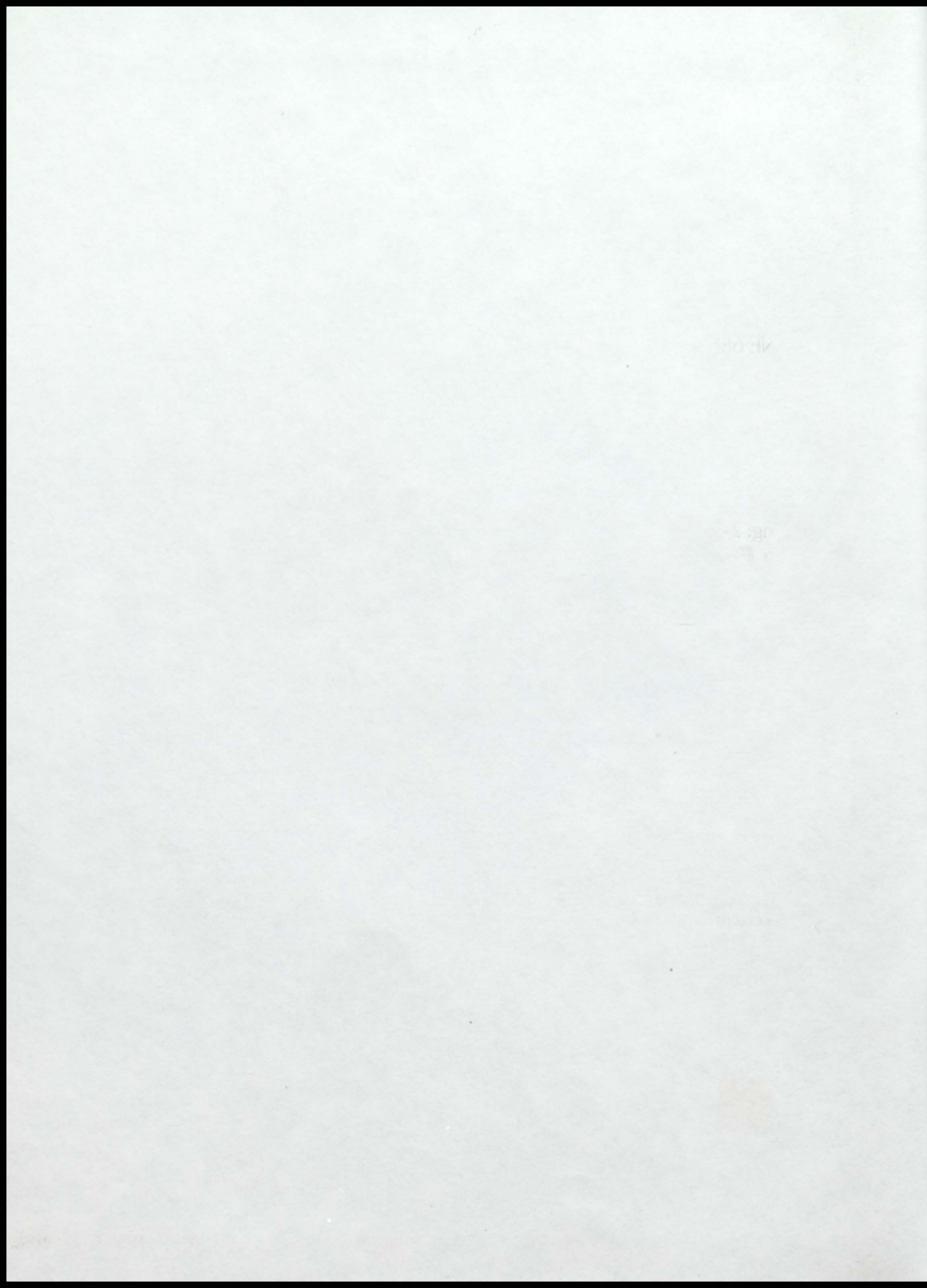




Every
Eagle
has a
Story





every Eagle has a Story

The Reflector 2017
Volume 58

Nebraska Christian Schools
1847 Inskip Ave.
Central City, NE 68826
308.946.3836
nebraskachristian.org
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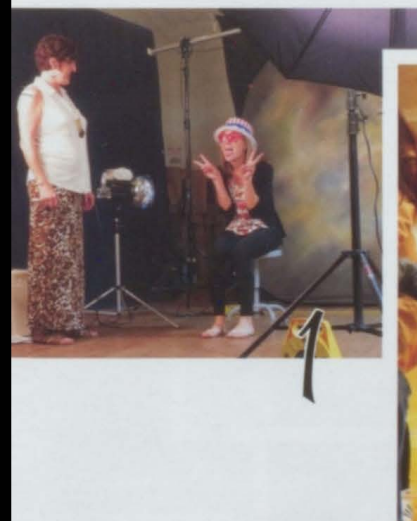
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Continuing Our Stories

1. **Emily Halstead (12)** gets her picture taken on school picture day. Traditionally, the seniors take silly pictures because their pictures aren't needed for the yearbook.

2. International students (clockwise from top middle) **Clara Chon (11)**, **Gladys Choi (12)**, **Michelle Huang (10)**, **Eva Liu (9)**, and **Melinda Kim (11)** strike a pose as Santa and his reindeer during the Christmas student council event. The event was a great way to de-stress after finals.

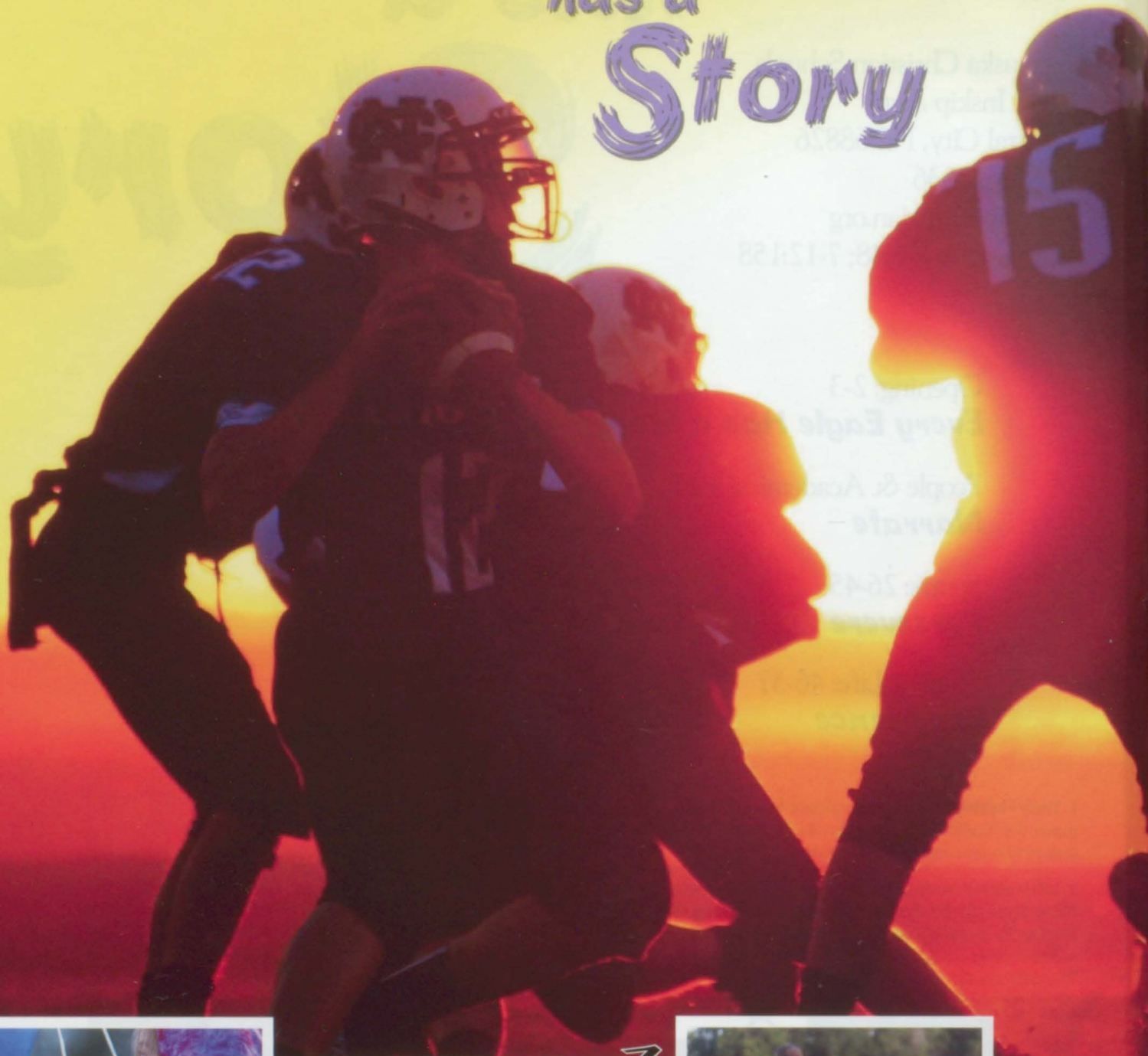
3. On Character Day of Homecoming week, **Seth Hower (9)** and **Mr. Eric Zanger** impersonate Shawn and Henry Spencer from *Psych*. Character Day was one of the favorite days of Homecoming week.

4. **Faith Springer (5)** and **Marlie Mundt (6)** play with the elementary band during the Spring Concert. Many large and small groups performed at the concert, which was held at the Performing Arts Center in Central City.



Title

every Eagle
has a
Story



Looking Beneath the Surface

1

Sports teams compete, choir groups sing, and classes learn. Everything a school does is together as a body, as one. But when you break it down, what is beneath the surface? How have those teams gained points, and how has the choir succeeded? The answer is in the God-gifted individual. Junior high student **Ethan Burdett (8)** stated, "I think God has really helped me better myself and look at verses differently even though I've seen them all my life. The verse I used the most this year was probably James 1:19. I'm not sure I'm prepared for the road ahead...but I'm trusting God and his plan no matter what happens." Each student has been fearfully and wonderfully created in His image with unique gifts. And whether those gifts are big or small, all play important parts in the body of NC.

As students come and go from Nebraska Christian, each is loved and accepted for his or her particular skills and personality. **Katelynn Halstead (11)**, who transferred to NC from a school in Kansas, said, "My absolute favorite thing about NC is the people. Coming into this year, I

was instantly welcomed and overwhelmingly encouraged by all those around me. The people have not only become encouragers in my walk with Christ--they have also become my family."

Whether new to the school or an attendee since kindergarten, every person has a unique purpose in the school. Students that have been here for quite some time know the school from floor to ceiling and are familiar with how the school has grown and changed over the years. **Sarah Simmons (12)** said, "I love that at NC, no matter what your talent, everyone is encouraged to pursue their ability. I have grown a tremendous amount in 13 years in my walk with Christ, and God has shown me how much NC means to me and impacted me."

This year addresses that every "eagle" has a story. Every student has gifts, struggles and passions. This book will tell the stories of the students and show how each plays a vital role in what makes Nebraska Christian the place it is today.

- **Hailee Broman (12)**

1. Preparing to pass the football to a teammate, **Trevor Cumpston (10)** dodges opposing players in the golden light of the evening. Even though the team lost to Palmer, the Homecoming game was one a close one.

2. Balancing on the fence in the cool of the evening while clutching their balloons, **Kaley Krug (1)** and **Emily Perry (1)** enjoy the Homecoming game. The student council sold the balloons to be let go at the first touchdown, an event that created a spectacular site.

3. Best buds **Carsyn Ostrand (10)** and **Jada McHargue (10)** burst into laughter as they act out the nativity scene of Mary holding baby Jesus. This was one of the games played at the Christmas student council event, and students had a ball playing the silly game.

4. Fifth grader **Christian Strobel (right)** and his friend Micah Green, with hero-themed painted faces and holding tight to their goodies won at the NC Carnival, shout hello the camera. The prizes won at the mini-games, along with many other fun activities and games, made the NC Carnival an evening to remember.

5. Piling on top of each other in order to squeeze everyone in the photo, **Morgan Schulze (12)**, **Hailee Broman (12)**, **Janie Mousel (12)**, **Wendy Bornmann (12)**, and **Danae Burdett (11)** grin for a quick picture before the speaker starts his message at Spiritual Emphasis Day. This year's Spiritual Emphasis Day was held at Heartland Evangelical Free Church, and the off-campus site allowed the students to get out of the normal routine and enjoy a day away from school.

6. **Tom Kang (12)** smiles for the camera while the rest of the boys' soccer team focuses their attention on what **Coach Clay Mankin** is saying. Although the students worked very hard during their soccer practices, there was always a degree of spunk and energy on the field.

7. Focused on the next her next manufacturing class project, **Desiree' Lutes (12)** works efficiently on sanding a 2x4. Lutes was one of few girls involved with shop classes, and she was just as passionate and hard working as the guys.

8. Dorm girls **Clara Chon (11)**, **Melinda Kim (11)**, **Gladys Choi (12)**, **Bella Yin (10)**, and **Trang Doan (12)** pose for a picture while enjoying a weekend at Timberlake. After a long week of studying, studying and more studying, the girls quite enjoyed a weekend to rest, relax, and grow closer as friends.





Narrate

1. Taking a break from studying, the Men of Vision class (including **Jeremiah Ebel [12]**, **Toby Watson [10]**, **Benny Stevens [12]**, and **Chase Tate [11]**) puts together a wheel barrel for **Mr. Carl Ostrand**. The men of vision class learned life lessons and many things that will help them as they grow up to be leaders, and they took on many service projects on campus.

2. **Mrs. Dee Flynn**, surrounded by botany class members **Dayna James (12)**, **Daniel Myers (11)**, and **Harry Nguyen (12)**, points out the seeds growing in the greenhouse. The new greenhouse, located southwest of the high school building, was a major addition to NC's campus in 2016.

Striving Towards Companionship

Most Tuesdays through Fridays, the school bell will ring, and students will once again sit in class with their companions. It was important for the students to get to know each other, especially since many of the school's extra activities, such as sports, drama, etc. involved classmates, upperclassmen, and underclassmen. In 2016-2017, the juniors and seniors made it a priority to positively connect with the younger students.

Luke Swanson (11) said, "I think it's important for upperclassmen to realize they are influences on underclassmen. It's important for them to branch out so underclassmen can have a good influence to refer to."

Students also found it very important to get to know their fellow classmates, as many years from now, they will be the people they think about in their memories.

Janie Mousel (12) said, "It's been a blessing getting to know my classmates and their personalities, and as seniors, getting to see those personalities influence their career choices."

Most of the students at Nebraska Christian didn't really care about each other's nationality, gender, or grade. The students branched out and made friends with students from other classes, and this gives them plenty of memories in the future.

Students can get to know their fellow companions through classes, but what they will really look back upon is the time spent with each other.

- Cole Ruybalid (12)



3. **Lucy Perry (P)** and **Emma Broman (3)** play a fishing game at the annual back-to-school carnival. The carnival provided a chance for new and returning students to get to know each other while playing fun games.

4. **Bekah Feddersen (10)**, **Madison Felt (10)**, and **Lydia Langemeier (11)** pose for the camera during the Homecoming pep rally. The school's festivities provided the students great chances to bond with each other.

5. **Phat Chau (11)** concentrates on his math homework. Teachers often gave students time at the end of the period to get a head start on their homework.

how do academics impact your NC experience?



"The Gospel is shared in every class, which is really cool. So not only are you getting an awesome education but you are growing in your faith."

- Katie Entz (12)



"It teaches me to work hard and prepare for college and the hard courses that will come around."

- Jeremiah Ebel (12)



"I feel like I have improved my reading skills so much better through academics. Understanding and being able to discuss the text with other students is a blessing."

- Cream Masatit (11)



1. The Senior Class pauses for a picture in front of the US Capitol Building during senior trip (front to back, from left). Row 1: Tom Kang, G Nguyen, Juan Lasso Velasco, Hailee Broman, Reagan Williams, Marilla Flynn, Gladys Choi, Angela Mate, Trang Doan, Corina Ge, Emily Halstead. Row 2: Harry Nguyen, Khanh Nguyen, Grace Wu, Ann Nguyen, Sophie Guo, Dayna James, Janie Mousel, Wendy Bommann, Anna Li. Row 3: Andrew Winsterman, Cole Ruybalid. Row 4: Minh Vu, Taylor Morris, Alex Hao, Benny Stevens, Tommy Flynn, Jeremiah Ebel, Victor Thai, Sarah Simmons, Morgan Schulze, Katie Entz, Desiree' Lutes. Not Pictured: Jaydon Elge.

Most Likely to Become a...

Lawyer: Juan Lasso Velasco

Politician: Benny Stevens

Surgeon: Katie Entz

Teacher: Morgan Schulze

Soldier: Jeremiah Ebel

Zookeeper: Grace Wu

Ballet Dancer: Tommy Flynn

Mechanic: Andrew Winsterman

Policeman: Jaydon Elge

Pop Star: Marilla Flynn

Actor: Trang Doan

Artist: Alex Hao

Detective: Cole Ruybalid

Astronaut: Tom Kang

Class Verse: "But he knows the way that I take; when he has tried me, I shall come out as gold." – Job 23:10 (ESV)

Class Motto: "There are far, far better things ahead of us than any we leave behind." – C.S. Lewis

Class Flower: White Rose

Class Colors: Gold, Blue, and Black



Wendy Nicole
Bornmann

Years at NC: 4

If I were an animal I'd be ... a roasted chestnut~isn't it obvious?



Hailee Jo Broman

Years at NC: 6-3/4

If I were an animal I'd be ... a squirrel because my attention span is small. But hey~I'm kinda cute :-)



Soyoung (Gladys)
Choi

Years at NC: 3

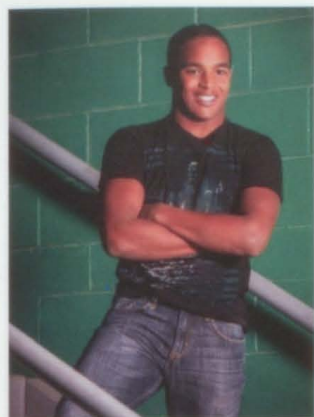
If I were an animal I'd be ... a puppy because I like being around people. I'm really active!



Trang Minh Doan

Years at NC: 3

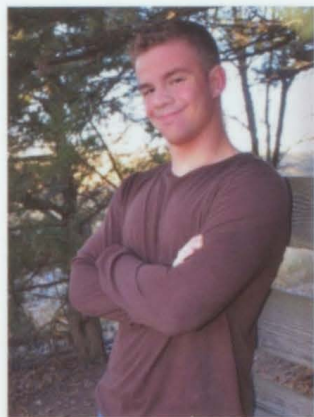
If I were an animal I'd be ... a shark because I like to eat and scare other sea creatures.



Jeremiah Michael
Ethel

Years at NC: 4

If I were an animal I'd be ... a black panther because I'm black and agile.



Jaydon Josiah Elge
Vice President

Years at NC: 10

If I were an animal I'd be ... a honey badger.



Katie Grace Entz
Secretary

Years at NC: 4

If I were an animal I'd be ... a horse because they are majestic!



Marilla Donn Flynn

Years at NC: 12

If I were an animal I'd be ... a hippo because they are really cute, but when their rage is unleashed, they are unstoppable.



Thomas Kelly Flynn

Years at NC: 5

If I were an animal I'd be ... a cow because they eat a lot.



Xuanyi (Corina) Ge

Years at NC: 3

If I were an animal I'd be ... a cat because I like the way the cat lives.



Yuzhen (Sophie) Guo

Years at NC: 2.5

If I were an animal I'd be ... a hedgehog because of a sense of security.



Emily Mikayla
Halstead

Years at NC: 1

If I were an animal I'd be ... a bird because flying would be so much fun!



Jia Kun (Alex) Hao

Years at NC: 4

If I were an animal, I'd be ... a rock because **Marilla (Flynn)** said that I am.



Dayna Marie James

Years at NC: 1

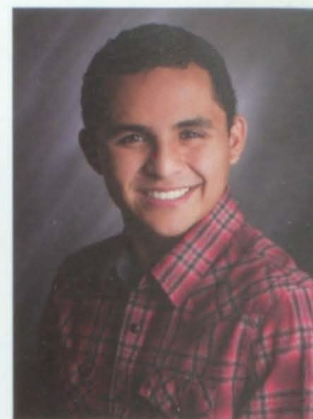
If I were an animal, I'd be ... a dolphin so I could be near the beach all day.



Minseong (Tom) Kang

Years at NC: 3

If I were an animal, I'd be ... a dog because dogs are cute.



Juan Sebastian Lasso Velasco

Years at NC: 6

If I were an animal, I'd be ... a turtle because I am a slow thinker.



Yuejuan (Anna) Li

Years at NC: 3

If I were an animal, I'd be ... a dog because dogs are loyal.



Desiree' Hanna Lutes
Treasurer

Years at NC: 4

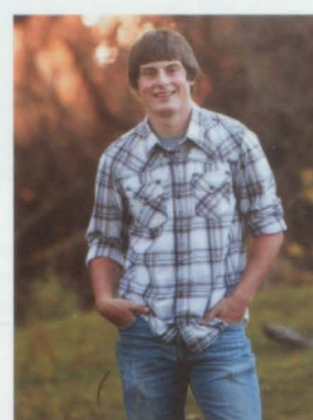
If I were an animal, I'd be ... a panda.



Angela Karimi Mate

Years at NC: 1

If I were an animal, I'd be ... a quokka, a small macropod, because it is the happiest animal on Earth.



Taylor Lee Morris

Years at NC: 4

If I were an animal, I'd be ... a mink because they are cool and slow like me.



Janie Rae Mousel

Years at NC: 4

If I were an animal, I'd be ... a freshwater shark.



Anh Quynh (Ann)
Nguyen

Years at NC: 1

If I were an animal, I'd be ... a lion because they are strong and brave.



Giang Truong (G)
Nguyen

Years at NC: 2

If I were an animal, I'd be ... a dog because I love their loyalty.



Huy Nhat (Harry)
Nguyen

Years at NC: 1

If I were an animal, I'd be ... an eagle, free and powerful.



Khanh Tran Phan
Nguyen

Years at NC: 1

If I were an animal, I'd be ... an eagle
because I want to fly and be free.



Cole Manuel
Ruybalid

Years at NC: 7

If I were an animal, I'd be ... a
dragon. After training in martial
arts for many years, I'm a dragon
warrior.



Morgan Dale Schulze
Co-President

Years at NC: 4

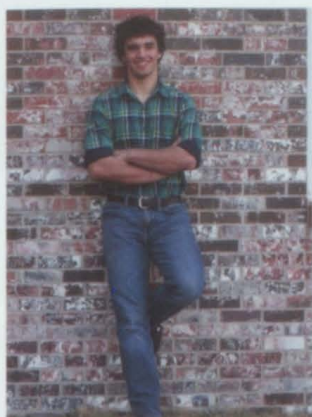
If I were an animal, I'd be ... an
albino turtle because when I am
around people too much, I like to
hide.



Sarah Elizabeth
Simmons

Years at NC: 13

If I were an animal, I'd be ... a sloth. I'll
just hang around and not do anything,
kinda like what I'm doing now ... but ...
slothier.



Benjamin Gordon
Stevens

Years at NC: 4

If I were an animal, I'd be ... a black
bear.



Yu Long (Victor) Thai

Years at NC: 1

If I were an animal, I'd be ... a tiger,
strong and majestic.



Patricia Reagan
Williams

Years at NC: 10

If I were an animal, I'd be ... a fish so
I could be in the water 24/7.

What's Your Story?



Heading
to West
Point

Benny Stevens (12) is heading to a school that only a select few are able to attend: He has received and accepted an appointment to the United States Military Academy at West Point.

After going through a rigorous admission process, which included a fitness assessment and a nomination by Nebraska's 3rd District Representative Adrian Smith, Stevens received his official appointment. Following his graduation from West Point, Stevens will be commissioned as a second lieutenant in the US Army and will serve on active duty at least five years.

One thing Stevens is anticipating most about this next step in his journey is the impact a West Point education will have on his life. "I see it as a great investment for my future, and it will better me as a man," he said.

- Miss Becky Ritta



Minh Nhat Vu

Years at NC: 2

If I were an animal, I'd be ... a frog or
a panther.



Andrew James
Winsterman
Co-President

Years at NC: 8

If I were an animal, I'd be ... a
peacock because you gotta let me
fly.



Wen-Ying (Grace)
Wu

Years at NC: 3-1/2

If I were an animal, I'd be ... a sea
turtle because I like how it swims.
fly.



Landon Barcel
Danae Burdett
Phat Chau
Clara Chon
Keziah Dexter
Corryn Falk



Andrew Feely
Benjamin Oriess
Brayden Gustafson
Katelynn Halstead
Jessica Hilderbrand
Timothy Hofmann
Joel Kaczor



Ji Ha Kim
Melinda Kim
Lydia Langemeier
Cream Masatit
Anna Musgrave
Daniel Myers
Brennan Nokolby



Katie Nyberg
Claire Ostrand
Joel Poppe
Micah Smith
Luke Swanson
Chase Tate
Samuel Twogood



Nick Vuong
Rocky Wang
Spencer Williams
Sonya Wu
Ruby Yang
Sharon Yu
Richard Zhao
Not Pictured: Jean Joy Kamau



What's Your Story?



From Eastern Europe to North America

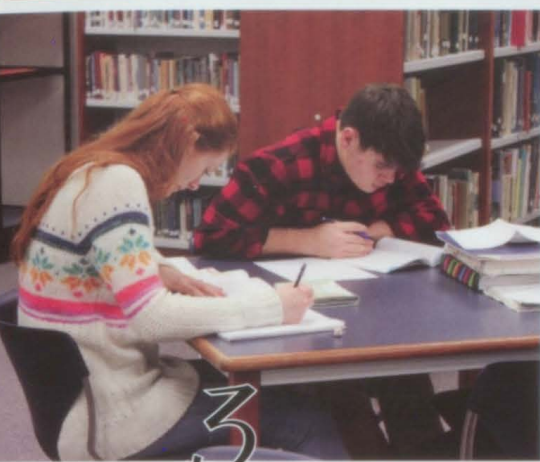
Chase Tate (11) was born in Bulgaria and lived in an orphanage in that country for about three years. He then was adopted into the Tate family of Columbus, Nebraska. Tate, who has five older siblings, was interested in going to a Christian school for his high school education and found Nebraska Christian. He has found many robust friends and role models at the school and has already influenced many younger students as well.

Tate drives back and forth from school after sports practice, which can be troubling, especially in the winter. Tate said *"In the winter, the roads are slick, and in some of the mornings, the roads in town are terrible."* Tate hopes to push the younger students to do their best and trust in God.

-Jeremiah Ebel (12)



2



3



4



5

1. The junior class gathers together for a class picture during the junior trip to Minnesota. The class had the opportunity to visit two different types of colleges, the University of Minnesota and the University of Northwestern St. Paul. The trip was a chance for the class to see what type of colleges would fit their goals.

2. Getting to know his E-group for the first time, junior **Spencer Williams** (center) talks about what he did over the summer. In E-groups, the juniors learned from their senior counterparts to get out of their comfort zone to talk about Christ and help the younger students.

3. **Anna Musgrave (11)** and **Luke Swanson (11)** study for their upcoming class in study hall. Musgrave said, *"My hardest classes right now are Algebra and science. Junior year has definitely been tough, but it all has grown me a lot despite the challenges."*

4. **Joel Kaczor (11)** and **Brayden Gustafson (11)** grin as they do a warm-up run during weights class. Because so many students enjoyed taking weights, a second class was added to the schedule, making it available to more students.

5. During a high school basketball game, **Katie Nyberg (11)** points out the options of food choices to hungry basketball fans. The junior class was in charge of the concessions to help pay for their junior and senior trips and the Honor Banquet.

challenge

"This year has been a tough year for sure, but as juniors, it's time to realize that college is around the corner."

- **Brayden Gustafson (11)**



"Junior year is pretty hard for sure. Algebra and chemistry have definitely been a challenge, and also having the reality of college coming is starting to get to me."

- **Luke Swanson (11)**



"Junior year has definitely been the hardest year so far. You start to realize that you're starting to grow up. Although it's tough, I'm excited to see what senior year brings."

- **Danae Burdett (11)**





Choosing a Path

1

Baron Bai
Curtis Bailey
Noah Boersen
Justin Brock
Laura Carlson
Trevor Cumpston
Ryan Dexter



Jonathan Dockweiler
Adrienne Falk
Bekah Feddersen
Madison Felt
Cody Griess
Alyssa Gustafson
Bradley Hilderbrand



Michelle Huang
Hunter James
Benjamin Janssen
Emma Kaczor
Richard Li
Jada McHargue
Cejay Mieth



Carsyn Ostrand
Kate Pipher
Olivia Prettyman
Angelina Rodriguez
Halle Strong
Skylar Swantek
Jake Twogood



Toby Watson
Alison Winsterman
Bella Yin
Kevin Yu
Bennett Zaruba
Arwen Zhang
Barry Zhang
Not Pictured: Hannah Kwon



What's Your Story?



Brad overtakes digital media

Bradley Hilderbrand (10) was the only one to join the digital media class this year. But he doesn't let that bother him; he works hard and stays focused on his task.

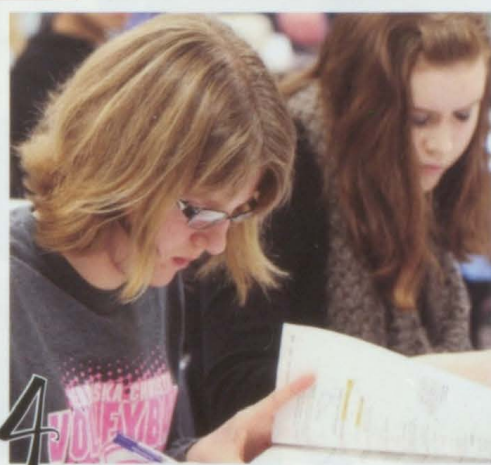
Hilderbrand said, "I really enjoy being able to film the games and Striv for people who can't come. I want them to be able to see what the school is doing."

Hilderbrand was born in Fremont and grew up in Oakland, Nebraska. He began attending NC in his late elementary years and has been a hard worker for the teachers since.

"He is always willing to take on any task that I ask him to do, and he always does it with a smile. I enjoy having him in this class. He does a big service to both our school and our community," said **Mr. Mark Leonard**, the digital media teacher.

Hilderbrand had to take on a lot of responsibility as the lone media class member, and he has risen to the challenge.

- Cole Ruybalid (12)



1. **Adrienne Falk (10), Olivia Prettyman (10), and Carsyn Ostrand (10)** practice their life-saving skills during health class. The sophomores spent one week learning CPR during the spring semester.

2. Celebrating a successful cleanup (clockwise from top left), **Jon Dockweiler (10), Zachary Egeland (7) Brad Hilderbrand (10), Michelle Huang (10), and Bella Yin (11)** hold their bags in victory. These students were part of the large group that worked at Bader Park on the annual service day.

3. Working to lay a piece of wood down, **Angelina Rodriguez (10) and Halle Strong (10)** work together as they do clean-up work on the service day. The students who participated in the work day worked in groups around the Central City area.

4. **Cejay Mieth (10) and Bekah Feddersen (10)** focus on homework after the lesson. Mieth and Feddersen made sure they were able to finish as much homework as they could throughout the school day.

5. **Arwen Zhang (10)** paints **Ava Merchant's (11)** face during the annual back-to-school carnival. The carnival, which took place during the first week of school, provided an excellent opportunity for students to get to know each other.

amusement

"We worked forever on our Christmas door decorations. We won, but instead of the usual donuts for the prize, we got a bag of Dum-Dums."

- Jon Dockweiler (10)



"Jon [Dockweiler (10)], Toby [Watson (10)] and I always begin English class by sitting on the back counter and singing the hits."

- Curt Bailey (10)

"My craziest moment this year was the hockey game that the dorm went to. It was very fun, and it was my first time ever seeing a hockey game. The game showed me more about American cultures and activities. I really enjoyed it."

- Bella Yin (10)





Entering High School¹

JC Chen
Hunter Dixon
Lauren Feely
Faith Franke
Kalob Green
Kelly Gustafson



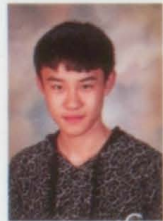
Amy Hilderbrand
Seth Hower
Jessica James
Kendyl Jividen
Bryce Krieger
Grace Langemeier
Jayden Leonard

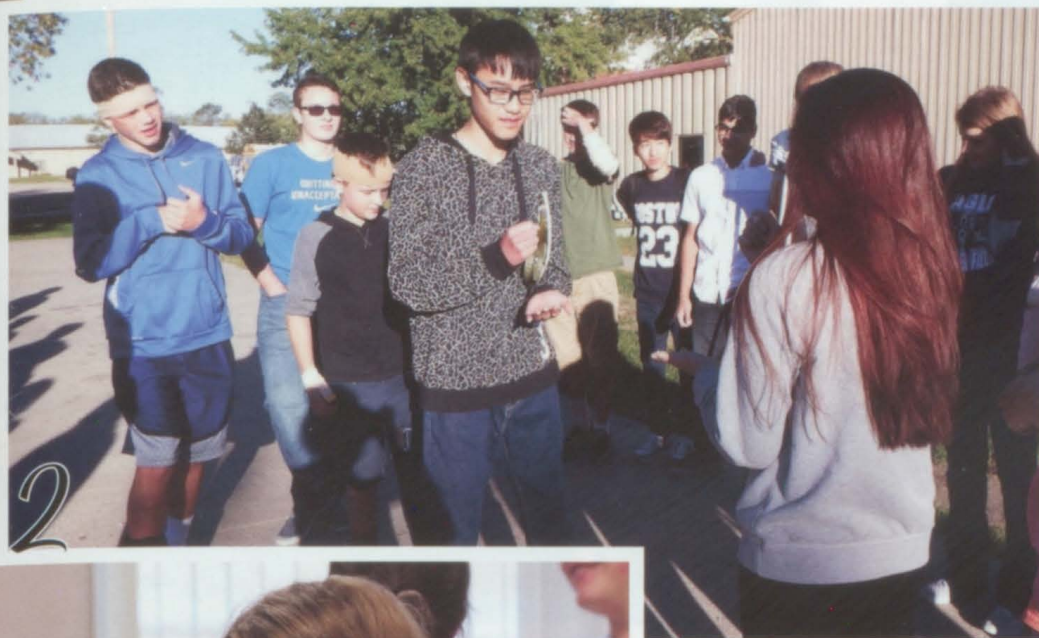


Eva Liu
Micah Loy
Jamie Myers
Christopher Needham
Garrett Nokolby
Olivia Nyberg
Talia Parlani



Sam Qu
Noah Ralls
Cory Ruybalid
Jordan Schnell
Stephanie Strobel
Addie Stutzman
Garrett Swantek
Not Pictured: Keith Wasomi





What's Your Story?



Learning English and Making Friends

Eva Liu (9), a new freshman at NC, is brave. She has worked hard and succeeded well this year. She is from Taiyuan, Shanxi, China. Liu said, "This year was so satisfying, and I got a lot of chances to spend time with different people and to participate in a variety of activities. I can feel a great improvement of my English skills."

One way that Liu built relationships with others was through photography. She took photos for several dorm students and some senior pictures.

Liu wanted to study at NC because of the Christian atmosphere and more freedom and opportunities in class.

- Sophie Guo (12)



1. **Christopher Needham (9)** presents his Rube Goldberg project to his physical science class while **Eva Liu (9)**, **Arwen Zhang (10)**, **Sam Qu (9)**, and **Stephanie Strobel (9)** look on eagerly. One of the most anticipated days of each school year is Rube Goldberg day.

2. **Sam Qu (9)** plays rock, paper, scissors in the E-group competition at the beginning of the school year. Qu, a Chinese student, was new to NC this year. "I have lots of fun in this school," he said.

3. Following the day's lesson, **Kelby Gustafson (9)** chats with a friend during English class. The freshmen studied hard, but they also enjoyed every moment they spent with each other.

4. **Micah Loy (9)** performs his OID at the CNFLI speech meet. As a first-year speech student, Loy was a member of both the varsity OID and novice duet. He ended up placing fourth in both events at districts.

5. **Freshman students**, all dressed up as characters from Jesus' birth, stand proudly in front of their decorated door. The class was given the film *The Nativity Story* for this year's Christmas door-decorating competition, and the creative bunch did excellent job.

changes

"The freshman year is a great year with many different things going on. I'm not going to lie: freshman year is tough, especially if you are new like I am, making new friends and getting used to teachers."

- Bryce Krieger (9)



"Being a freshman is a big change from junior high, but the upperclassmen help out a lot, and it's an exciting time to grow in my relationship with Christ."

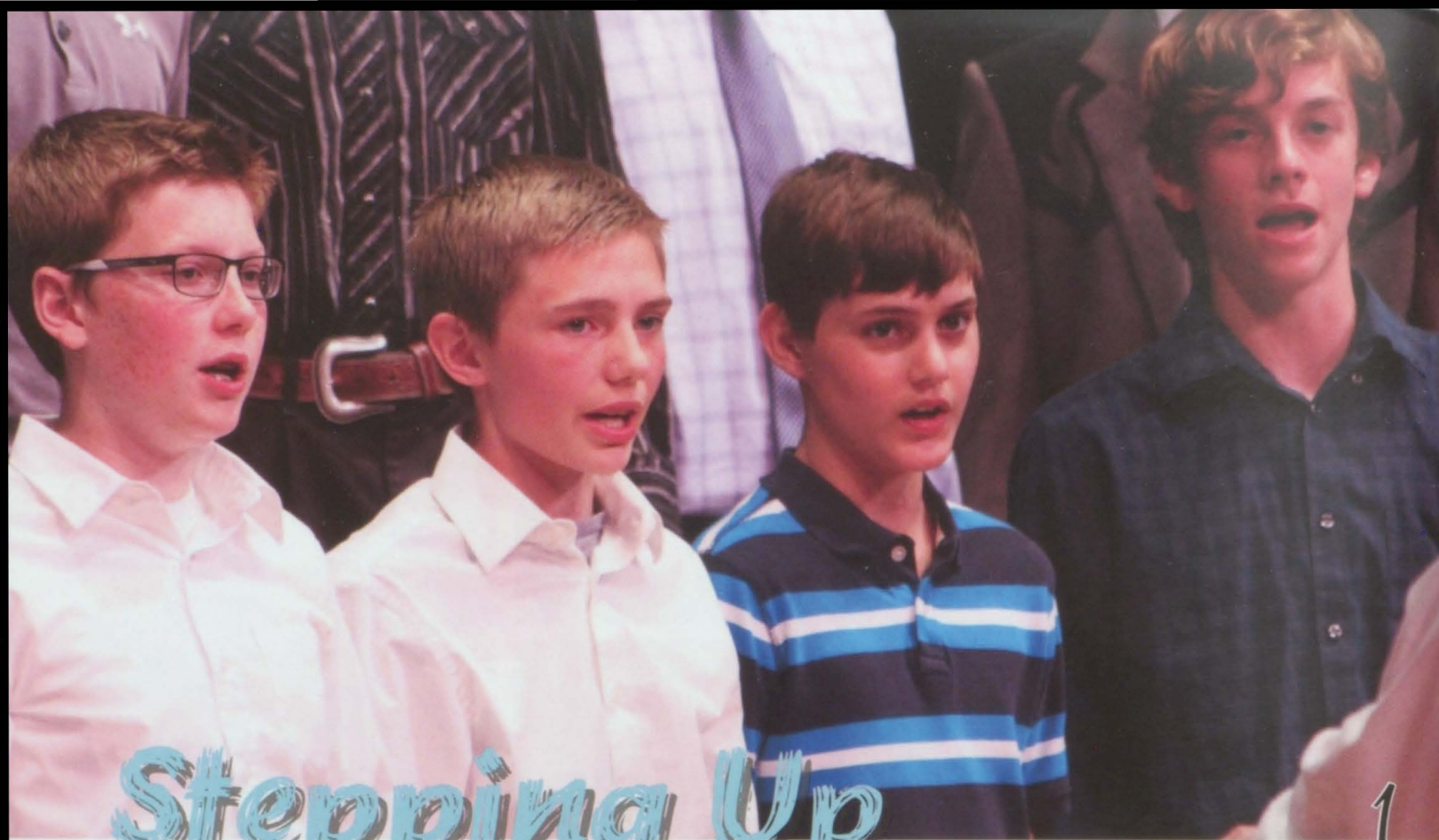
- Stephanie Strobel (9)



"Freshman year at NC was different from anything I had ever experienced."

-Faith Franke (9)





Stepping Up

1

Conner Bromann, 7
Tyler Cumpston, 7
Zach Egeland, 7
Dayton Falk, 7
Aidan Feely, 7
Molly Griess, 7
Teagan Haynes, 7



Aaron Jividen, 7
Shelby McHargue, 7
Sidney McHargue, 7
Ethan Merchant, 7
Kobe Morris, 7
Daniel Musgrave, 7
Jonathan Needham, 7



Lizzy Powers, 7
Tabitha Seip, 7
Chantz Stuhmer, 7
Elijah Boersen, 8
Alyssa Broman, 8
Ethan Burdett, 8
Elijah Green, 8



Olivia Janssen, 8
Anthony Jividen, 8
Cody Kaczor, 8
McKenna Leonard, 8
Carl Mundt, 8
McKenzie Schweitzer, 8
Grant Stuhmer, 8



Shelby Swanson, 8
Tobias Zaruba, 8



What's Your Story?

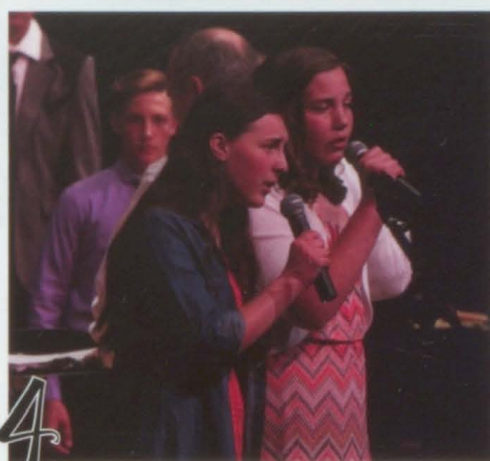


Eddie the Eagle

It only took a random idea and a few genius students to revive an old tradition. The dusty old eagle mascot that has been sitting up in the Administration building for years, now known as "Eddie the Eagle," has been put back into use by **Conner Broman (7)**. If you know Broman, you know he is the perfect fit for the mascot. He is energetic and social, spunky and lovable. Broman said, "To me, Eddie the Eagle was not about showing off and trying to be cool; it was about being proud of being the first NC mascot [in recent memory] and seeing the joyful looks on people's faces." One homecoming game is all it took for the lively little guy to bring the bird to life and for every student and player to fall in love with Eddie the Eagle. The mascot was a great addition to the school and all would vote that it become a tradition once more and be used for years to come.

- Hailee Broman (12)

2



4

1. Focused on balancing their tone and harmony, the junior high choir, including **Tyler Cumpston (7)**, **Dayton Falk (7)**, **Kobe Morris (7)**, and **Ethan Merchant (7)**, sings at the Spring Concert. While those in high school had a choice about being in choir, all junior highers were required to be part of the junior high choir.

2. All dressed up and ready for the Harvest Festival, **Anthony Jividen (8)** and **Conner Broman (7)** smile for the camera. The Harvest Festival is a great time for NC students and staff to say "thank you" to those who support NC through prayers and monetary gifts.

3. Listening closely to **Mrs. Sarah Swanson**, **Aidan Feely (7)** and **Aaron Jividen (7)** focus in math class. Seventh grade was a year of transition, as students went from a single classroom in elementary with only a couple teachers to changing classrooms each period and seeing multiple teachers each day.

4. Making beautiful music together, **Olivia Janssen (8)** and **Molly Griess (7)** sing a duet at the Spring Concert. Janssen and Griess, along with **Ethan Merchant (7)** and **Ethan Burdett (8)**, were chosen to sing the first verse of "When You Believe" from *The Prince of Egypt*. Following the first verse, the whole junior high choir joined in.

5. **McKenzie Schweitzer (8)** packs hygiene kits for Mission Heart during the spring service day. Students who were not involved in district music spent an afternoon serving in and around the Central City area.

3



5

favorite memory?

"When some of us junior high girls when to the lake and tubed in August."

- Sidney McHargue



"My favorite part of the school year was when the middle-schoolers and the high-schoolers played kick-ball with each other because it was fun."

- Aaron Jividen (7)



"When our junior high Quiz Bowl team placed 2nd at the Conference meet at the PAC. We had great unity led by our coach, Mrs. [Tara] Mundt."

- Olivia Janssen





1

Ryan Berck, P
Lily Franci, P
Gabriel Green, P
Zeke Johnson, P
Mabel Mankin, P
Jonah Parde, P
Brynn Ratliff, P



Tyla Stuhmer, P
Kaity Berck, K
Christian Jividen, K
Ali Williams, K
Emma Zanger, K
Noah Creutzberg, I
Kaley Krug, I



Alyza Leonard, I
Anisha McCray-Luce, I
Trev McHargue, I
Ava Merchant, I
Emily Perry, I
Abby Berck, 2
Clayton Johnson, 2



Alexis Perry, 2
Caleb Whalen, 2
Emma Bronan, 3
Julia Merchant, 3
Nathan Fetterley, 4
Alyssa Springer, 4
MaKai Bolanos, 5



Alexandra Bruning, 5
Rachel Hale, 5
Landen Leonard, 5
Christopher Medlock, 5
Kylie Merchant, 5
Richie Musgrave, 5
Amanda Needham, 5



What's Your Story?

Chinese New Year



The Spring Festival is a very special time in Chinese culture. Two Chinese girls, **Corina Ge (12)** and **Bella Yin (10)**, introduced this traditional festival to the elementary students at a special Chinese New Year event.

Ge and Yin taught elementary students how to write "rooster" in Chinese, which is the animal that represents the year, and how to say "Happy New Year" in Chinese. They also told students about the red envelope tradition, a monetary gift which is given during holidays or special occasions.

Riley Schreiber (6) said, "My favorite part is about the red envelope. It is so fun to know people put money in it."

The girls also taught the students about The Lion Dance, a form of traditional dance in Chinese culture where performers mimic a lion's movements in a lion costume.

- **Corina Ge (12)**



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1. Liberty University Assistant Football Coach (and former Nebraska assistant) Ron Brown blocks **Gabe Langemeier (6)** and **Drew Perdew (6)** for **Riley Schreiber (6)** during "Digging Deeper." Brown and Brian Young both spoke to students during the event.

2. During fire prevention week, Central City Volunteer Fire Department Fire Chief Brad Wells teaches preschool through 3rd grade students about the basics of a fire truck. The students learned about the truck, as well as what to do if they were in a fire.

3. Elementary students, caroling at Waffles N-More, sing beautiful Christmas songs to the audience. The students caroled at several places around Central City shortly before Christmas.

4. Sue and Norm Krug help their granddaughter, first grader **Kaley Krug**, prepare for her turn playing "Hawkeye Bull's-Eye" during Grandparents' Day. Elementary students enjoyed showing their grandparents around the school.

5. During "Digging Deeper," elementary students enjoy playing a math game. The afternoon of the event was dedicated to math and science games and activities. Students from many area elementary schools and homeschools attended.



Faith Springer, 5
Christian Strobel, 5
Marisa Fetterley, 6
Hope Franke, 6
Gabe Langemeier, 6
Sarah Lasso, 6

Not Pictured:
Brinlee Galles, P
Lucy Perry, P
Dallas Reyes, 1
Monet Lawson, 2



Marlie Mundt, 6
Drew Perdew, 6
Cooper Schnell, 6
Riley Schreiber, 6
Amy Springer, 6
Malachi Zaruba, 6



1

Instructing

Harold Cook, Custodian
Curtis Cooper, Custodian
Josh Campston, Superintendent/Bible
Tom Dockweiler, Business Manager
Andy Falk, Math/Bible
Ruth Ferris, Secondary Library
Amy Fetterley, Foundation Assistant/Bus Driver



Dee Flynn, Science/Quiz Bowl
Kaitly Flynn, Girls' Dorm Parent/Women of Vision/ESL/Tutor
Mike Flynn, Music/Bus Driver
Stephani Franci, Director of Development
Ronald Franke, Boys' Dorm Parent/Bus Driver
Suzhen Franke, Boys' Dorm Parent
David Gee, Industrial Technology



Karmen Hamer, English/Drama/Journalism
Jody Heuermann, NC Foundation
Rachel Hicks, English
Daurice Hower, Program Assistant
Donna Janssen, Elementary Aide
Ronda Jividen, Elementary Aide
Gib Killion, Dorm Director/ESL Bible



Kristy Langemeier, Special Events Coordinator
Deana Leonard, Preschool/Special Events Assistant
Mark Leonard, Business/Computer/Media
Deb Lovejoy, Cook
Clay Munkin, Social Studies/Bible/Boys' Soccer
Karen Miotke, Business Office Secretary
Tara Mundt, Science



Sara Musgrave, Spanish
Carl Ostrand, Social Studies/Bible/Football/Track
Becky Ritta, Communications/Yearbook
Robert Ritta, Maintenance/Food Services Director
Susan Ritta, Executive Secretary
Vonda Schnell, Cook
Denise Schreiber, Secondary Librarian



What's Your Story?



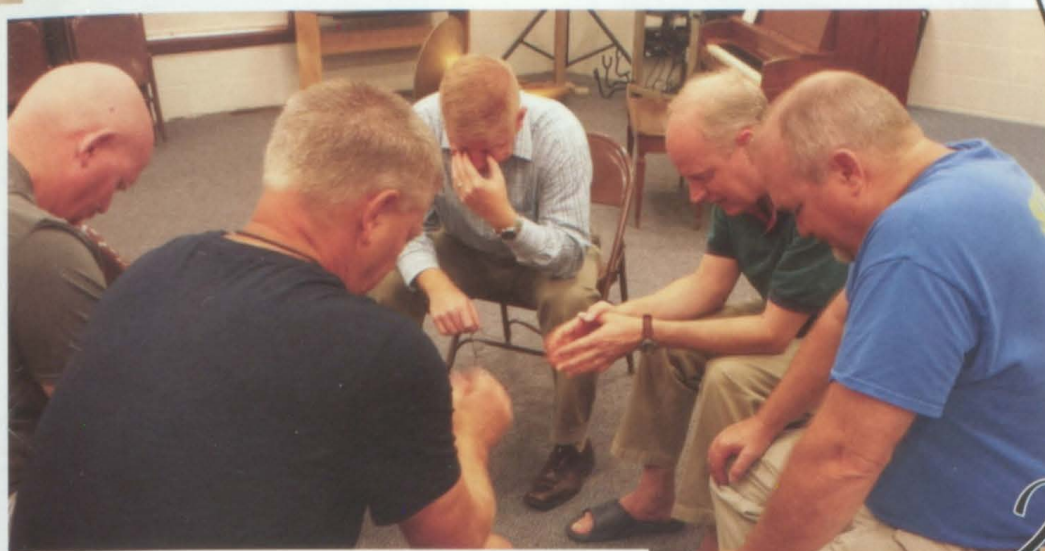
Suzhen Franke becomes dorm mom

Mrs. Suzhen Franke, the new boys dorm parent, grew up in Malaysia. She began doing mission work in 1996 and has been to many different countries. From China, to Korea, and even Singapore, she has been working in the mission field. She moved into the boys' dorm with husband **Ronnie** and daughters **Faith (9)** and **Hope (6)** at the beginning of the '16-'17 school year.

"Moving into the dorm was a big change for me. In Asia, I can use all of my talents and all four of my languages. Here, I feel like an anchovy in an ocean instead of a whale." said Franke.

Franke has enjoyed many things about her first year. She said, "One thing that I enjoyed about this year was the seasons, how it can change from cold weather to keep the insects away, to warm weather. I like the quiet village farm life away from the big cities. But most of all, I really enjoy working in the dorm."

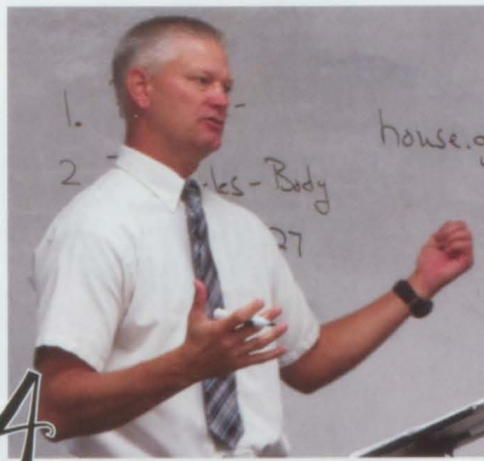
- Cole Ruybalid (12)



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5. **Mrs. Deb Lovejoy** and **Mrs. Vonda Schnell** work hard to prepare lunch for the students. The cooks worked as a team and made it a priority to make sure there was enough food for all the students to be satisfied.

1. Turning **Mr. Eric Zanger** into a mascot, **Shelby McHargue (8)**, **Cody Kaczor (8)**, and **Anthony Jividen (8)** work frantically to finish before time is called. They all had fun participating in this event at the year's first pep rally.

2. Gathered together in a circle, **Mr. Andy Falk**, **Mr. Carl Ostrand**, **Mr. Josh Cumpston**, **Mr. Ronald Franke**, and **Mr. Mike Flynn** pray for the upcoming school year. The theme of prayer continued through the school year as staff members met together to pray and spent time discussing Tim Keller's book *Prayer*.

3. **Mrs Sarah Swanson** gives the math lesson as the students listen attentively. Swanson, who made the move to Nebraska Christian after teaching at New Hope Christian in Cairo, taught Geometry, 7th Grade Math, and Pre-Algebra.

4. Moving around the room, **Mr. Carl Ostrand** gives the history lesson in the senior government class. The government class always culminates with the senior trip to Washington, D.C., where students get a first-hand view of what they've studied.

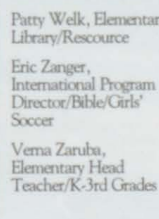


Larry Schreiber, School Counselor/Activities Director

Charissa Smith, 4th-6th Grades/Speech

Janice Stuhmer, FCS/English/Elementary Art/Elementary Math, Junior High Head Teacher

Sarah Swanson, Math



Patty Welk, Elementary Library/Resource

Eric Zanger, International Program Director/Bible/Girls' Soccer

Verna Zaruba, Elementary Head Teacher/K-3rd Grades

Not Pictured:

Terry Anderson, Bus Driver

Terry Elge, Wrestling

Steve James, Guidance Counselor

Renate Johansen, Art

Scott Johnson, Cross Country

Anna Kirby, Cook

Kathy Kirby, Cook

Maddie Kirby, Cook

Erin Mankin, Girls' Basketball

Paul McHargue, Boys' Basketball

Tonya Ostrand, Volleyball/Spanish/PE

Wendy Schweitzer, Cook

Gordon Thiessen, Chaplain

"I love the diversity of the students, all of them have different talents."

- Mr. Mike Flynn



enjoy



"I've enjoyed seeing the development in students and the leadership qualities demonstrated. I mostly enjoyed though, the encouragement and caring for other students."

- Mrs. Ruth Ferris

Faculty & Staff

Hands-On Learning

Every student loves a hands-on project. It's how most people learn best; getting their "hands in the dirt," playing with shapes, sights and sounds, and getting a feel for how things work right in front of their eyes and ears. This is what the new Applied Physics class is all about.

As **Spencer Williams (11)** stated, *"It's like Physics, but applied. We look at the physics, then we go back into the lab and work out the 'hows' and 'whys' of everything."* This class offers a variety of different types of skills to apply to every day life. There are construction, manufacturing, electrical and even thermal skills to be learned and mastered in this class. Students learn precise measurements and get into hands-on lab activities. Many of the students say it's one of their new favorite classes. **Chase Tate (11)** also stated that his favorite part of the class is *"the humor. We learn a lot, but still have fun."* The new class is a fun class, a vital class, and overall a great addition to the school's academics.

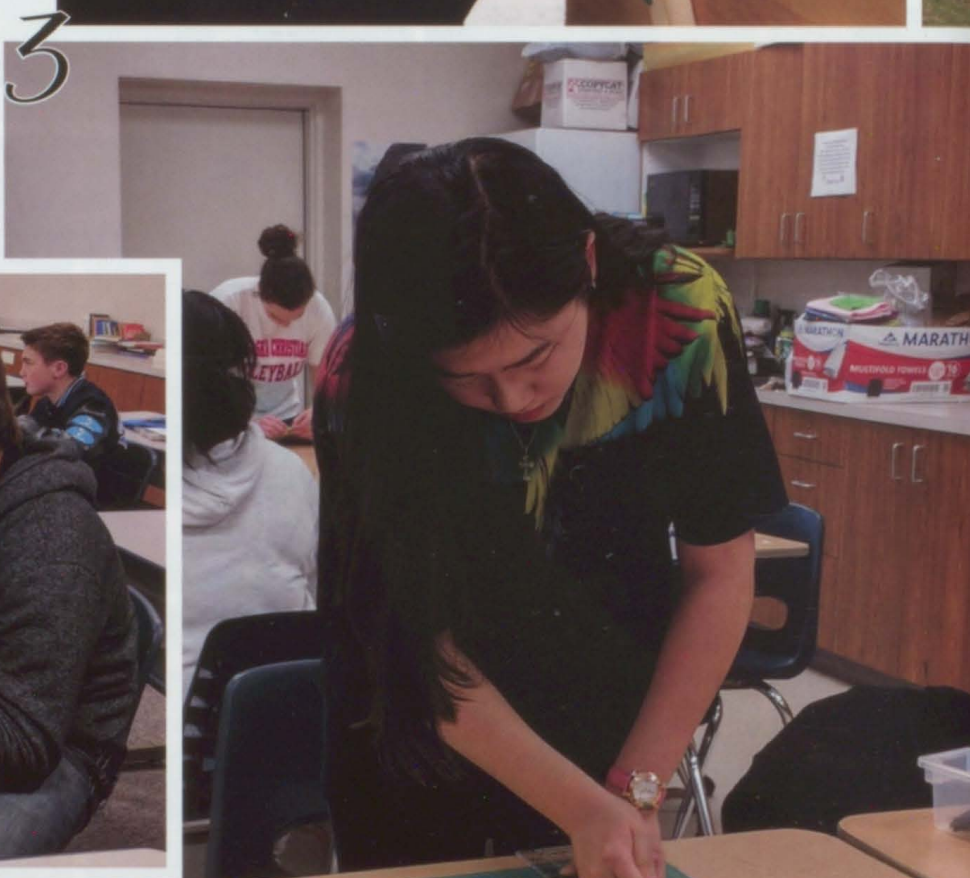
- **Hailee Broman (12)**

1. Paying close attention to the teacher in his math class, **Aaron Jividen (7)** listens attentively. Although math classes may not be everyone's favorite class, the students sure are challenged and tested in all the right ways.

2. **Amy Hilderbrand (9)** carefully places each domino into place for the final step of her Rube Goldberg project. This complex project was difficult, but so worth the time spent when the students got to watch the final task be completed. The majority of the ninth grade physical science class would say that this project was the most enjoyable one of the year.



3. Concentrating while she makes the next cut on her fabric, **Anna Li (12)** works on a quilt in Family Consumer Science class. The students in FCS students donated many of the items they made during the school year.



4. Focusing on each other's papers, **Ben Janssen (10)** and **Justin Brock (10)** offer advice for making the essays better. The sophomore English students used peer editing to improve their papers before turning them in for a grade.



Diligent Workers

Learning & Growing

It's in the human nature to love newness. People gravitate towards all things fresh and recent. The Botany class was added to the NC curriculum in 2016 to add some newness to the school, and it certainly did! The class was not only a great addition, but also an amazing journey. It started with virtually nothing, just some biology books and a very wise **Mrs. Dee Flynn**.

The class was eager and ready to learn and plant all sorts of things. While at first they just worked in the classroom, they soon moved into a full-sized greenhouse with hundreds of plants to put in it. Anything from prairie research to hanging pots for the plant sale, the Botany class did it all and had an incredibly successful first year. As the only junior boy in the class, **Daniel Myers (11)**, said, "In botany class I grew stronger both mentally and spiritually. Mrs. Flynn and the senior girls challenged me in my faith this year, and I have become stronger because of it." Flynn and the students are eager to see what the coming years will hold for the Botany class of Nebraska Christian.

- **Hailee Broman (12)**

5



6



7. **Mr. David Gee** shows **Katie Entz (12)** a key concept during their Laser Engraving class. Entz said, "Not only did I get to learn how to use a laser, but I also learned more about shop tools, how to cut wood, and how to properly make different decorated items with wood! I really enjoyed the class."

7

5. Warming up for weights class, **Nick Vuong (11)**, **Victor Thai (12)**, and **Mr. Clay Mankin** jog around campus. Weights class was a very popular elective, especially for juniors and seniors.

6. **Morgan Schulze (12)** carefully waters plants in the school's new greenhouse. Students in the new botany class grew and cared for many varieties of plants, and they held a plant sale in the spring.

what is your favorite class and why?



"My favorite class was Woman of Vision because **Miss Kaity Flynn** really challenged me as a senior going to college and as a Christian."

- **Grace Wu (12)**



"Economics because **Mr. [Carl] Ostrand** is fantastic and gets the students involved."

- **Taylor Morris (12)**



"Probably Spanish, just because it's such a fun class, and the people in the class make it so fun to do together, even though it can be a hard with learning a new language, but I have a blast!"

- **Jada McHargue (10)**

Academics

Adopt a Dorm Student

The international department at Nebraska Christian started a new program in 2016-2017 called "Adopt a Dorm Student." It provided a chance for international students to spend one Sunday per month with a host family. Through this program, international students and their host families got to know each other better.

They developed great relationships with each other. **Phat Chau (11)** said, "Mr. [Dan] and Mrs. [Connie] Maas are the best people ever. They always care about me. Mrs. Maas is very kind; she is always concerned about my health, and I remember very well that she prayed for me when she knew I was sick. Also, Mr. Maas is a very funny guy. He likes to joke around. He gave me some advice, helping me know what I should do. I feel so lucky because I had many wonderful days with them."

Minh Vu (12) also enjoyed the time with his host family, saying, "It was a great experience. I really like Mr. Leonard, and we became closer after the event."

As a whole, the program was very successful, and it was loved by students and families.

- Corina Ge (12)

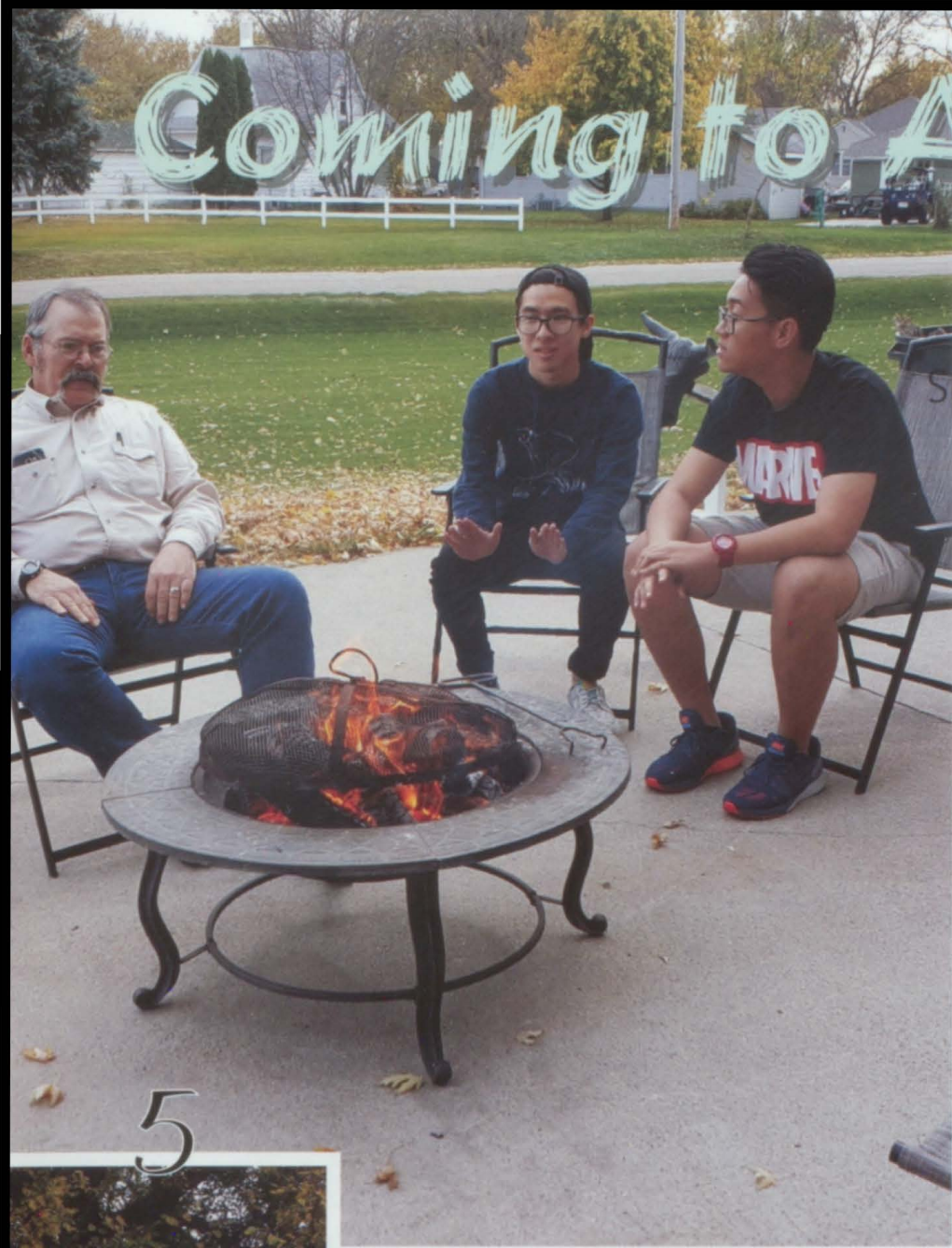
1. Several of the dorm boys, along with dorm dad **Mr. Ronnie Franke** and his daughter **Hope (6)**, take a quick photo outside the Federal Reserve Bank in Kansas City. The international boys went to Kansas City over Easter break.

2. **Trang Doan (12)** paints junior **Sharon Yu's** face during the NC carnival. The dorm girls ran a popular face painting station during the carnival, and before the night was finished, most students had a cool design painted on their faces.



3. **Gladys Choi (12)** plays and sings with the worship team at the beginning of chapel. Choi was one of many international students who utilized their musical talents at school.

Coming to America



Spending Easter in Texas

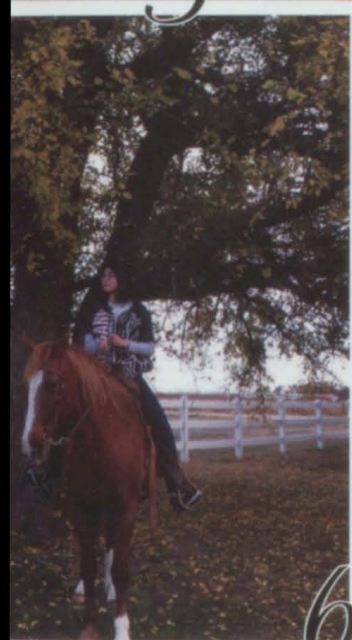
On April 14th, after spending 12 hours on a bus driven by **Mr. Mike Flynn**, the dorm girls arrived in Dallas for Easter break.

One of the significant events was visiting The Sixth Floor Museum, which presents the legacy of President John F. Kennedy's life and death. Through the window from the museum, the students could see the place where Kennedy was assassinated. This helped the international students get a deeper understanding of America history.

Another exciting event was going to Six Flags Over Texas. The girls loved the thrilling rides. **Sophie Guo (12)** said, "It was my first time to ride the Roller Coaster, even though my legs were so hurting afterwards, it was a fresh experience for me."

The girls dorm mother, **Miss Kaity Flynn**, said, "We lived our time to the max with a little bit of history, good food, and shopping. I am always so blessed to travel with an awesome group of girls."

- Corina Ge (12)



6. **Trang Doan (12), Michelle Huang (10), Melinda Kim (11) and Bella Yin (11)** play in the water at Timberlake. The dorm parents arranged many outings for the students throughout the year.

4. On Valentine's Day, Mr. Gary and Mrs. Cherlyn Haussermann take a picture with the dorm girls. The Haussermanns, who had a special love for the international students, gave each girl a chocolate rose to celebrate the holiday.

5. On one of the Adopt a Dorm Student Sundays, **G Nguyen (12)** and **Minh Vu (12)** chat with **Mr. Curtis Cooper**, Nguyen's host. That night, the Coopers hosted a cookout with the Leonards, Vu's host family.

6. **Sophie Guo (12)** rides a horse in her host family's backyard. "It was my first time on a horse, and it was so fun," Guo said.

what is your favorite memory at NC?



"When I woke up in the morning, **Jiha [Kim] (11)** ran into my room and told me that day was a snow day."
- Alex Hao (12)



"My favorite memory is the senior trip. I had so much fun spending time with my friends."
- Khanh Nguyen (12)

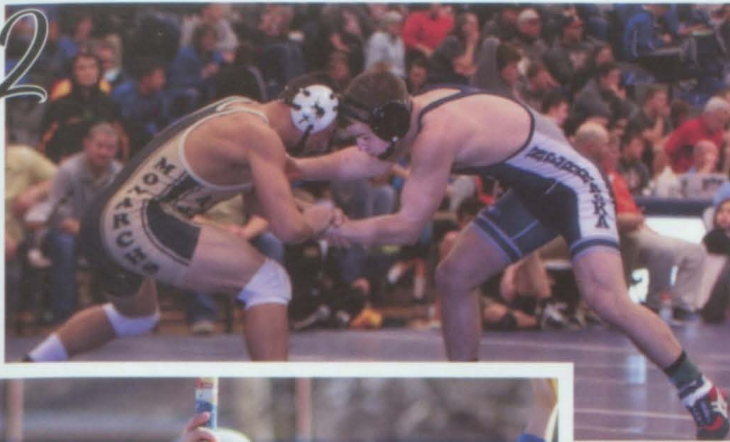


"The teachers, caring for all students. They talk about Jesus Christ through their teaching lesson, encouraging both physical and spiritual circumstances in students lives."
- Cream Masatit (11)



1. Looking for an open receiver down field, **Trevor Cumpston (10)** steps into his throw. During the season, Cumpston trained hard to stay in shape and compete to his best ability at quarterback.
2. As he tangles with an Aquinas wrestler, **Jaydon Elge (12)** looks for a way to take down his opponent. Elge, who came back from a season-ending injury his junior year, pushed hard to train and push his teammates to do the best they could throughout the season.

2



Giving Their All

Amid the long seasons, late nights, and up to three contest per week (depending on the sport), being a high school athlete requires perseverance.

As an athlete who participated in four sports at various times in high school--volleyball, cross country, basketball, and track--**Katie Entz (12)** knows a little something about perseverance. She said, *"Even when things seem to be going against you, sports teach you to push through and rise above hardships."* Entz's coaches recognized her perseverance and determination, and she, along with **Benny Stevens (12)** and **Andrew Winsterman (12)**, received the 2017 Shield Award, which is presented to athletes who exhibit strong leadership and Christian character.

Entz is just one example of an athlete who has learned to persevere. Each team, whether junior high, JV, or varsity, is filled with students who give their all throughout each sports season.

- **Jeremiah Ebel (12) & Miss Becky Ritta**

3



4

3. Demonstrating proper hand placement, sophomore **Carsyn Ostrand** (right) gives **Alyssa Broman (8)** tips for pole vaulting. High school athletes often volunteered to help the junior highs.

4. Soaring over a hurdle, **Laura Carlson (10)** gives her all as she races toward the finish line. Carlson had a great track season, placing second in pole vault at the district meet and going on to compete at the state meet in Omaha.

5. Getting ready to break from their team huddle, the boys basketball team prepares to take the court. The basketball team had many ups and downs throughout the season, but that didn't stop them from putting forth all their effort in the sport that they love.



5



what did you learn from sports this year?



"I learned to completely trust in God with the injuries I acquired. I didn't know what was going to happen, but I trusted God's plan."

- **Luke Swanson (11)**



"We're human and we make mistakes. We will mess up. But the mistakes are proof that we're trying."

- **Alison Winsterman (10)**



"This [football] season was great because we had great seniors to look up to and to follow."

- **Micah Loy (9)**



"Cross Country is a very mental and physical challenge. I love the team aspect because it is an individual as well as a team sport."

- Katie Nyberg (11)



"The camaradene in cross country is great. Great friendships are formed when you talk while you run with your teammates."

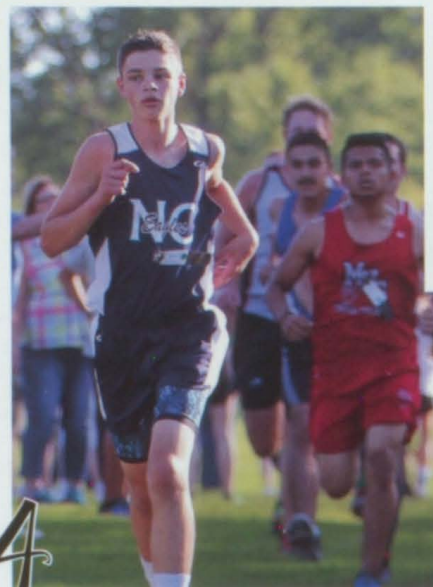
- Ben Janssen (10)



"I really enjoyed the cross country season. Being on the team was like being a part of a family."

- Curt Bailey (10)

why do you love cross country?



1. **Addie Stutzman (9)** runs heartily in the race. As a first-year member of the team, she developed a lot as a runner throughout the season.
2. **Brennan Nokelby (11)** paces himself as he nears the finish line. Nokelby qualified for state for the third consecutive year.
3. **Katie Nyberg (11), Emily Halstead (12) and Halle Strong (10)** start running in the Goldenrod Conference Meet. The girls' team finished the race as the team runner up.
4. **Garrett Nokelby (9)** tries to finish the long distance and daunting hills at Albion. Nokelby decided to join the high school team after being a member of the junior high team.

5. **Talia Parlano (9)**, showing her confidence, runs at the Central City Invite. "Running cross country was hard for me, but my teammates helped me a lot," she said.
6. **Andrew Feely (11), Garrett Nokelby (9), and Jon Dockweiler (10)** run in rhythm, keeping pace at the cross country meet. Feely, who joined the cross country team as a junior after playing football his freshman and sophomore years said, "I wanted to try something new to help me get in shape for wrestling season."

by the numbers

- 9 Boys' Team Members
- 5 Girls' Team Members
- 1 State Qualifier (**Brennan Nokelby (11)**)
- 1 Goldenrod Conference Championship (boys)

- 1 Goldenrod Conference Runner-Up (girls)
- 120 Racing Miles
- 7 Meets Locations



Showing Hard Work

The cross country team this year was excellent, maybe not from a success standpoint, but certainly from a growth and development perspective. The Eagles' workouts consisted anywhere from 20 laps around the track to long 6-mile runs along the dirt roads. The more they practiced, the more they improved. **Brennan Nokelby (11)** qualified for state for the third consecutive year, finishing in 24th place.

Emily Halstead (12) said "I loved hearing my teammates cheer me on as I ran and equally enjoyed cheering them on through their races. Being on the cross country team is like being a part of one big family. Whether we were working hard or laughing together, there was never a dull moment with my awesome team!"

The cross country team members all felt like they had accomplished something at the end of each workout and enjoyed rewarding themselves with Popsicles after every practice. Cross country meets were also a blast. **Halle Strong (10)** said, "The cross country season was challenging as I struggled to improve, but I had an amazing team to help encourage me. Running is a lot more fun when you get to do it with other Christians."

This season's cross country team bonded through running. The members worked hard to do their best and give God the glory. In the end, that is what truly matters.

• **Sophie Guo (12)**

meets

Boone Central
Aurora
Central City
Boone Central
Hastings
Goldenrod Conference at Central City
District at McCool Junction
State at Kearney



"Defeating High Plains and giving GACC a run for their money."

-Andrew Winsterman (12)



"Getting to play with my new teammates and hitting the East Butler quarterback really hard."

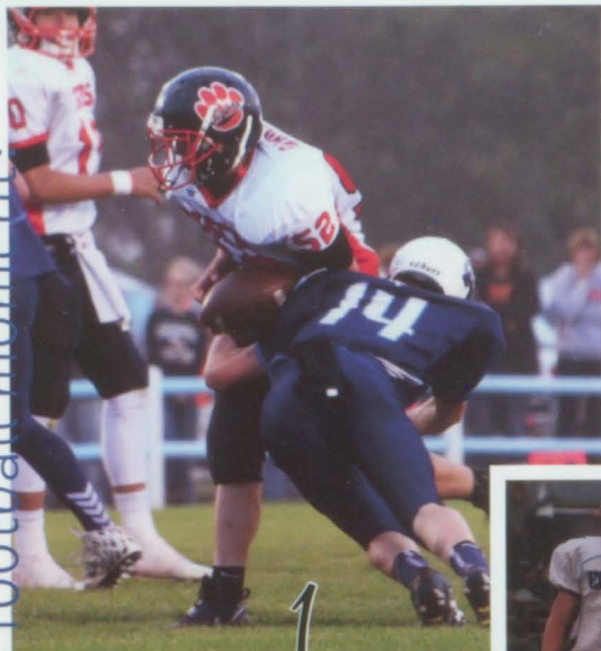
-Toby Watson (11)



"Giving motivational speeches and seeing the younger players step up and start learning to be more physical."

-Benny Stevens (12)

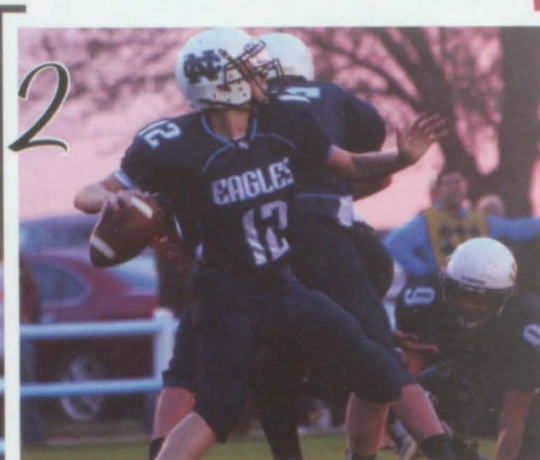
most memorable football moment?



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1. As #14 **Noah Boersen (11)** tackles the Palmer ball carrier, the football comes out and results in a fumble, recovered by the defense. Boersen, who stepped up to fill the shoes of last year's seniors, played with heart throughout the season.

2. Poised to throw to an open receiver, #12 **Trevor Cumpston (10)** settles behind his offensive line. Cumpston, who was the starting quarterback for the Eagles, was a young leader who led the offense during games.

3. As #44 **Benny Stevens (12)** carries half of the Guardian Angels Central Catholic (GACC) defenders, he trudges forward for extra yards. Stevens, who was a strong and motivated individual, continually pushed the team members to do their best.

4. #75 **Seth Hower (9)** and #99 **Tommy Flynn (12)** prepare to bring the heat to Elm Creek's defensive line. Hower, who looked to Flynn for advice on the field, trained hard to be on the starting lineup for the Eagle's offensive line.

5. Running down the ball carrier, #25 **Jeremiah Ebel (12)** and #11 **Andrew Winsterman (12)** rally to make the tackle. Both seniors upheld a strong secondary and contributed to many big plays.

6. Getting prepared for the next play, some of the Eagle defenders look to see what the opposing team's formation will be. The defense had to learn about the other team's offense quickly so they wouldn't get blind sided.

by the numbers

26 Team Members

2 Rivals (High Plains & East Butler)

13 Sacks Recorded

250 Total Points Scored

7 All-District Players (**Benny Stevens [12]**, **Andrew Winsterman [12]**, **Jeremiah Ebel [12]**, **Trevor Cumpston [10]**, **Luke Swanson [10]**, **Toby Watson [10]**, **Joel Kaczor [10]**)



Steadfast

Learning the Basics

Football is a game where young men learn to play as a team, grow together, and trust in God; that was the goal of this football team's season. Many of the players were inexperienced and didn't have much playing time under their belts, but the seniors and coaches made sure that they understood the game and their positions.

The football team suffered a few injuries during the season; some were painful to see as a team and for the parents, as well. **Jeremiah Ebel (12)** had a season ending concussion, and he was unable to play against East Butler. **Taylor Morris (12)** said, "Many of the younger players had to fill in the spots of seniors when they were injured, and they did a great job with the responsibility."

Even though the score box may not

show a winning record, the teammates grew closer to each other, the coaches, and, most importantly, to God. Many of the players felt that being an undefeated team sounded pleasing, but they knew that they were playing for Christ and not for popularity.

Just like David when he fought Goliath, the team was not phased by the bigger opponents. **Luke Swanson (11)** said, "The team was determined throughout the season to honor Christ; even though the outcome was not what we really wanted, we knew that God was in control." Many of the teams that NC faced were ranked teams, but that didn't stop the Eagles from putting up a tremendous fight like Israel against its many enemies.

-Jeremiah Ebel (12)

score box

<u>NC</u>		<u>Opponent</u>
14	Guardian Angels CC	28
48	Humphrey/Lindsay HF	16
22	Elm Creek	44
44	Heartland	64
50	Nebraska Lutheran	14
14	Palmer	36
34	High Plains	16
24	East Butler	46



"I enjoyed playing volleyball this season, and I am getting closer with my teammates because of volleyball."
- Cream Masatit (11)

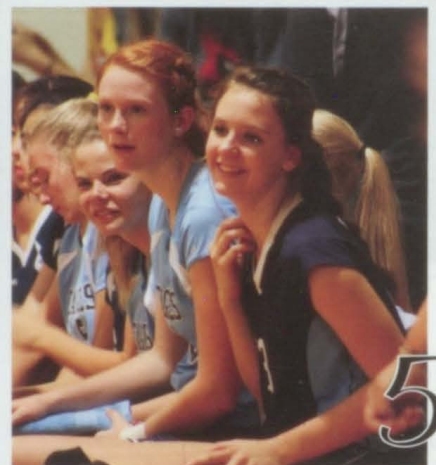
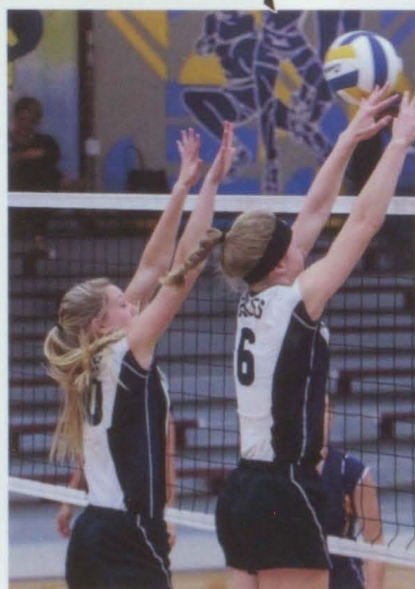


"I really enjoyed volleyball this year. We went a lot further than I expected to go!"
- Carsyn Ostrand (10)



"I think that is was fun, and I learned a lot from both the girls and coaches."
- Faith Franke (9)

favorite parts about the season?



1. **Lauren Feely (9)** spikes the ball against Palmer. Although **Feely** was a freshman, she became a valuable member of the varsity team.
2. **Sonya Wu (11)** passes the volleyball to **Melinda Kim (11)** in the C team match versus Boone Central. The C team did not have very many games, but the girls worked hard and got the win against Boone Central.
3. **Claire Ostrand (11)** runs onto the court as the starting lineup is announced. As a three-year starter, Ostrand was the one of the most experienced players on the team.
4. **Alison Winsterman (10)** and **Katelynn Halstead (11)** jump to block the ball. Halstead transferred to NC this year and made a big impact on the team.
5. **Jamie Myers (9), Anna Musgrave (11) and Kate Pipher (10)** concentrate on the game. The girls on the bench were a great support to the players on the floor.

6. The Varsity volleyball team, including **Lauren Feely (9), Kate Pipher (10), Katelynn Halstead (11), Steph Strobel (9), Emma Kaczor (10), Alison Winsterman (10), Corryn Falk (11), Adrienne Falk (11), Kendyl Jividen (9), Olivia Prettyman (10), and Jada McHargue (10)**, celebrates the Goldenrod Conference win. This was the third consecutive conference championship for the Lady Eagles.

by the numbers

36 Team Members
11 Freshmen
14 Sophomores
10 Juniors
1 Seniors

3 Consecutive Conference Championships
14 First-Year Players
4 All-Heartland Team Members
(4th Team: **Claire Ostrand (11)**; Honorable Mention: **Corryn Falk (11), Katelynn Halstead (11), Carsyn Ostrand (10)**)

4 All-Conference Players
(1st Team: **Carsyn Ostrand (10), Claire Ostrand (11)**; Honorable Mention: **Corryn Falk (11), Katelynn Halstead (11)**)
22 Wins



Becoming Leaders

Young Members Step Up

The Nebraska Christian team was unique because of the lack of seniors on the Varsity squad. **Claire Ostrand (11)**, a junior who had to step into leadership role, said, "This year was definitely different from last year. We had great seniors last year that set a great example of leadership. This year we had to step it up and lead with no seniors; I think it really prepared us for next year and forced us underclassmen to lead."

Laura Carlson (10), a member of a JV team, appreciated the unique nature of this team, saying, "This volleyball season provided an opportunity for not only the juniors to step into leadership, but also the sophomores and freshmen. Through practice and games, we were able to find where each individual fit into the team to create a unique dynamic unlike any other season. We all had fun and grew in our

relationships with each other and with God. Next year, many girls on the team will be returning, making for an experienced and united group of athletes."

As the team looked ahead to the future, they also appreciated the experience they had this year. **Corryn Falk (11)** said, "It was an amazing experience to be a part of the volleyball team this year! Even though we lacked seniors, we had several girls step up to fill roles of leadership on and off the court. This team was something truly fun and special to be a part of."

Though the team's season ended with a loss in the district final to eventual state champion Stanton, the girls truly had a remarkable ride, and they eagerly look forward to the future.

- **Corina Ge (12)**

score box

NC		Opponent
2	Heartland Lutheran	0
2	Palmer	0
3	Nebraska Lutheran	0
3	High Plains	0
2	Central Valley	0
2	Burwell	0
0	Central City	2
0	Adams Central	2
2	Boone Central/Newman Grove	0
3	Boone Central/Newman Grove	1
0	Elgin/Pope John	2
1	Riverside	2
0	Centura	3
2	Heartland Lutheran	0
1	St. Francis	2
2	Spalding Academy	1
2	Fullerton	1
2	Osceola	1
2	St. Edward	0
3	Riverside	1
3	Elba	0
3	Burwell	0
3	Fullerton	2
3	Arcadia/Loup City	1
1	Central City	2
0	Broken Bow	2
2	Gibbon	0
2	Elba	0
3	Cross County	0
3	Twin River	1
1	Stanton	3



"I would say beating Palmer and making Riverside work for the win."

- Trevor Cumpston (10)



"Just learning to discipline myself to do my best at all times and learning how to start being a leader."

- Seth Hower (9)



"There were many memories this year, but I would say one of the best was just playing with my friends."

- Ben Griess (11)

favorite memory of the season?



1. Before his free throw shot, **Seth Hower (9)** takes time to calm himself and prepare. Hower, who won the "most improved" award at the end of the season, became a vital member of the varsity team.

2. **Daniel Myers (11), Andrew Winsterman (12), and Garrett Nokelby (9)** defend against St. Edward. The Eagles played the Beavers twice during the season, losing the first game and winning the second.

3. After the hard fought game, the NC basketball team kneels to pray with their opponent after a game. The Eagles gave their all during every game, but their focus was on the Lord. After every game, whether they won or lost, the team prayed with the opposing team.

4. **Cody Griess (10)** charges down the court during the Blue vs. White game. This game, which pitted members of the JV squad against each other, allowed students who didn't always get to participate in games the opportunity to play in front of a home crowd.

5. Aggressively waiting for Palmer to advance, **Andrew Winsterman (12)** and teammate **Trevor Cumpston (10)** ready themselves for what's to come of Palmer's offense. Both Winsterman and Cumpston encouraged the team throughout the season to always do their best.

6. As they size up the Palmer offensive player, **Brennan Nokelby (11)** and **Ben Griess (11)** stay focused. Nokelby, who encouraged his teammates to do their best at all times, aided the team with mobility and knowledge during the game.

by the numbers

17 Team Members

2 Seniors on the Team

2 Goldenrod All-Conference Honorees
(Honorable Mention: **Ben Griess (11)** and **Andrew Winsterman (12)**)

11 Wins

1 Holiday Tournament Championship
(wins over St. Edward and Osceola)

1 Sportsmanship Award
(team winner in Goldenrod Conference)



Aiming High

Basketball Team Displays Determination

Students have the option to decide what sport they want to do in high school. Each sport requires something different of students and teaches them different lessons. The boys who chose to join the 2016-2017 basketball team learned about being determined. Going up against an untold amount of teams that were robust didn't stop the team from giving it their all on the court. **Noah Boersen (10)** said *"Centennial and Riverside were the hardest games we played, and even though we took losses to each of those teams, we still fought hard."* The team was still young, as **Andrew Winsterman (12)** was the only senior on the varsity team. That didn't stop the team from putting out 100% effort.

Numerous students on a team would want to quit if they had a bad record, but the Eagle's basketball team was determined to change that. Many teams didn't think that the NC basketball team had a fight in them, but they were gravely mistaken. The team would come out in the beginning of a game with steady hearts and a prowess on the court. **Joel Poppe (11)** said, *"You could feel the energy in the locker room as we got ready to play against our opponents. It was great to know that the people you played with had your back as well."* The basketball team had a brotherhood that would last the entire season and also into the regular days at school.

- **Jeremiah Ebel (12)**

score box

NC		Opponent
61	St. Edward	66
27	Centennial	56
41	Sutton	76
42	Heartland Lutheran	49
58	High Plains	37
42	Humphrey St. Francis	77
58	St. Edward	44
48	Osceola	36
53	Fullerton	51
46	Central Valley	36
65	Osceola	53
59	Spalding Academy	67
30	Spalding Academy	64
48	Humphrey/Holy Family	65
43	Heartland	59
47	Harvard	40
39	Riverside	78
47	Burwell	65
64	Nebraska Lutheran	63
61	Palmer	33
64	Elba	22
49	Shelby-Rising City	44
34	Centennial	62



"This year, basketball was fun and energetic. Everyone was so encouraging to each other, which made this year so enjoyable!"

- Jada McHargue (10)



"One of the highlights for me was our pre-game Varsity devotions refocused our priorities on why we were playing basketball and highlighted the phrase, 'Work Heartily for Lord.'"

- Kate Pipher (10)



"Many girls stepped up a lot this year, and did very well. It was so fun to play with these girls. I am so blessed to have been a part of this team."

- Claire Ostrand (11)

what's a highlight of the season?



1. **Corryn Falk (11)** performs a lay-up against her defender. Falk put her whole heart into the game, and she was a great asset to the team. Other conference coaches noticed this as well, and Falk was named All-Conference Honorable Mention.
2. In the intense game, **Grace Wu (12)** looks for an open teammate. Wu participated in basketball for three years, and she was one of only two seniors on the team. Through her persistence and hard work, she improved greatly as a player.
3. Before the game starts, a group of girls raise their hand and encourage each other. Camaraderie and team spirit helped propel the girls through their games.
4. **Skylar Swantek (10)** tries to prevent **Alison Winsterman (10)** from taking a shot during the Blue and White scrimmage. Because many JV and C team members did not get to play often, the school held an intra squad scrimmage for both the boys and girls teams.

5. **Carsyn Ostrand (10)** passes the ball to her teammate. Though young, Ostrand brought much-needed experience to the team as a second-year varsity member.

6. In the game versus Central Valley, **Olivia Prettyman (10)** prepares to shoot a free throw while **Katie Entz (12)** looks on. Prettyman was a vital part of the Varsity team, receiving past season Goldenrod Conference 3rd team honors.

by the numbers

17 Team Members

16 Wins

4 Students named to All-Conference Team (**Claire Ostrand [11]**, 1st Team; **Olivia Prettyman [10]**, 3rd Team; **Adrienne Falk [10]**, **Corryn Falk [11]**, Honorable Mention)

1 Holiday Tournament Championship (wins over St. Edward and Osceola)



Beginning Again

New Coach, New Season

This year the basketball team made unrelenting efforts. They had good scores and a variety of excellent players. Though there were not many seniors, juniors and sophomores impacted the girls' basketball team. They developed their skills and made great achievements.

Growing closer as a team through fun competitions and aggressiveness, everyone made progress. **Skylar Swantek (10)** said, "This year, it has been a privilege to play basketball in many different ways. I have not only grown in my ability to play, but I've grown in my relationship with God, the one who gave me that ability."

The team is adjusting to a new

coach, **Mrs. Erin Mankin**, who became head coach after serving as an assistant for a few years. She was assisted by **Mr. Nathan Musgrave** and **Mr. Gordon Thiessen**, who had previously served as the head coach. **Adrienne Falk (11)** said, "Our coaches were great and so many friendships were built and strengthened as the year went on. Everyone kept great attitudes throughout the season."

The girls had great memories spending time together practicing. They believe God gives them ability and talents to make basketball an experience where they could worship God and serve Him by fulfilling their role on the team and serving their teammates during the game.

- **Corina Ge (12)**

score box

NC		Opponent
47	St. Edward	10
48	Centennial	44
41	Sutton	48
55	Heartland Lutheran	43
54	High Plains	40
45	Humphrey St. Francis	38
52	St. Edward	25
40	Osceola	38
44	Fullerton	34
41	Central Valley	30
47	Osceola	37
36	Spalding Academy	45
44	Riverside	45
40	Humphrey/Holy Family	62
36	Heartland	63
63	Harvard	48
58	Riverside	48
38	Burwell	68
46	Nebraska Lutheran	27
57	Palmer	45
50	Cross County	42
36	Twin River	51



"Just improving throughout the season and competing with my teammates."
- Andrew Feely (11)

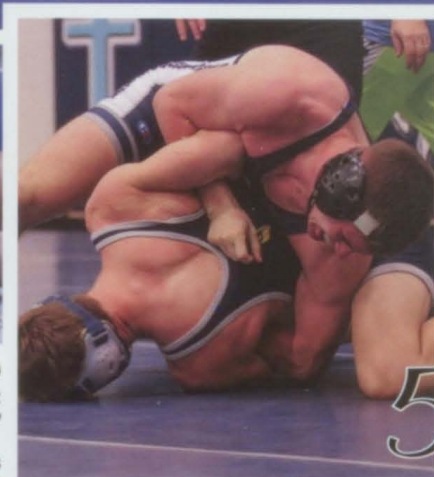
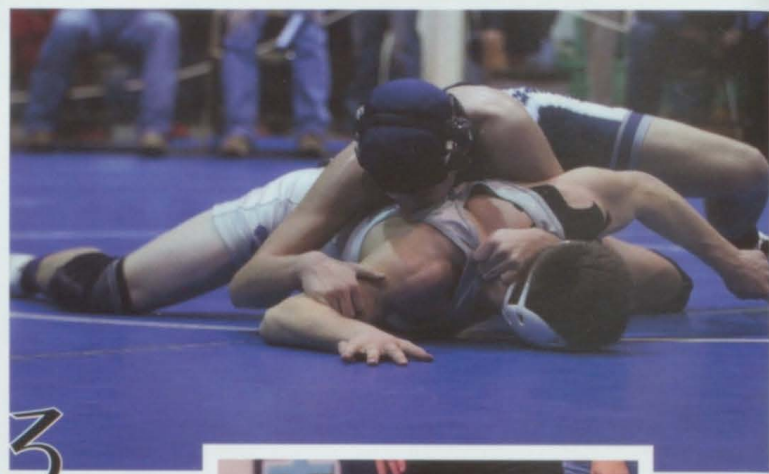
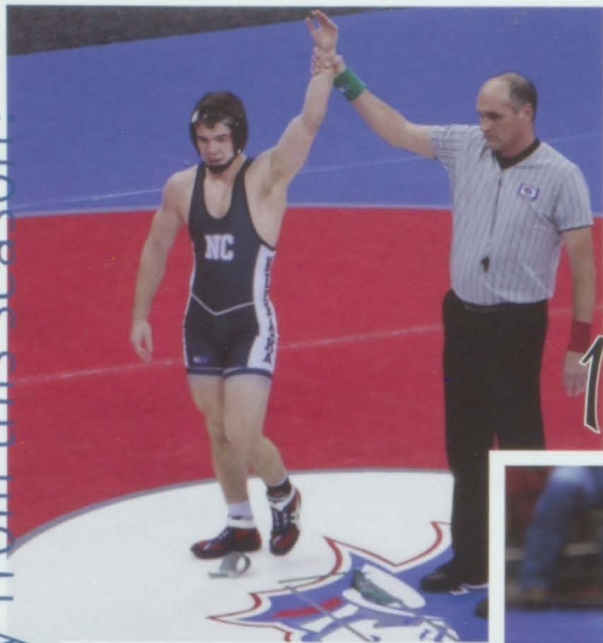


"Knowing that my win in the heartbreak round was my ability to medal at state."
- Juan Lasso Velasco (12)



"Seeing Juan (Lasso Velasco) come off the mat after his win in the heartbreak round at state."
- Jaydon Elge (12)

favorite memory from this season?



1. Getting his arm raised for the last time in his high school career, **Jaydon Elge (12)** smiles at his coaches after his win in the championship match over his competitor. Elge said, "It was a proud moment to cap off my senior year with a title and made me excited for college."
2. Trying to get his adversary to his back, **Kalob Green (9)** muscles his way to get his opponent to turn. Green, though his weight class was tough, pushed himself to his limit and fought even though the odds were against him.
3. As he tries to revolve his challenger onto his back, **Andrew Feely (11)** uses all of his brawn to complete his task. Feely had a rigid weight class to compete in, but that didn't stop him from trying his hardest to win.
4. As he finishes his move on his opponent, **Chase Tate (11)** skillfully pins a West Holt wrestler. Tate, who wrestled for two years in high school, made great improvement throughout the year. Even though he didn't qualify for the state meet, Tate still learned many traits though wrestling, and one of them was to never give up.

5. Putting the pain on his opponent, **Jaydon Elge (12)** puts all his strength into turning his adversary over onto his back. Elge pushed through many tough injuries to complete an undefeated season.
6. Using his strength against his foe, **Juan Lasso Velasco (12)** pushes his opponent to the mat. Lasso Velasco, a three-time state qualifier, made the most of his final appearance at state, winning the sixth place medal.

by the numbers

6 Team Members

2 State Qualifiers
(Jaydon Elge, Juan Lasso Velasco)

2 State Medalists
(Jaydon Elge, 1st; Juan Lasso Velasco, 6th)

2 State Championships Won by Elge
(2015 & 2017)



Overcoming

Wrestlers Learn Perseverance

Many times in life when people get knocked down they take flight and don't stand up to adversity, but that is not the case for the NC wrestling team. They may have been one of the smaller teams in Class D, but in the hearts of these wrestlers, there was a eagle waiting to ascend upon their competitors. The team was without one of its strongest leaders, **Jaydon Elge (12)**, throughout most of the season. Elge said, "It was tough to sit out, but I just focused on my teammates and tried to help them improve".

Throughout the season, there are many times wrestlers want to give up because their body aches and they have not eaten, but they have to have that drive in them to finish strong. **Juan Lasso Velasco (12)** pointed out the importance practice played in success on the mat, saying, "Many of the workouts that we did during practice were extremely

tough, but it was all to help us improve on our skills."

Having that drive to finish strong is what wrestlers need to be able to overcome hardship and turmoil. During the season, some of the wrestlers had to overcome the pain of injuries that they had sustained on the mat. **Chase Tate (11)** said, "When I had my knee injury, it was painful to wrestle though it, but I had to give it my all for that short amount of time that you have on the mat."

Andrew Feely (11) got a concussion halfway through the season, but after a week he was back doing the thing that he loved, being on the wrestling mat.

The younger wrestlers learned numerous strategies from their upper class teammates, and they hope that all the learning they did will add to the next wrestling season.

- **Jeremiah Ebel (12)**

meets

Harvard
Osceola
Elgin/Pope John
Newman Grove
Aquinas (David City)
Cross County
Neligh-Oakdale
Boone Central
Ord
Grand Island Central Catholic
District (Columbus)
State Championship (Omaha)



"Watching Over The Hedge at the Osceola meet in the tent."

- Joel Poppe (11)



"Making new friends and stepping up to lead the team."

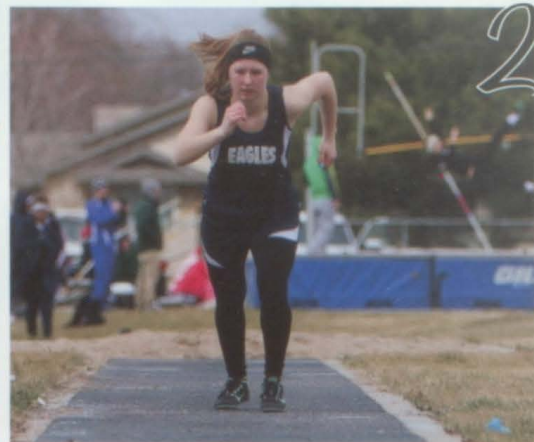
- Jeremiah Ebel (12)



"Fighting through hard workouts with my teammates and watching them compete at their best and seeing them all step up this year."

- Andrew Winsterman (12)

what stands out from the season?



2

3

4

5

6

1. **Toby Watson (10)** soars over a hurdle as he races toward the finish line during the district meet. This year's district was hosted by Central City Public, which made it easy for NC students and fans to cheer on the team.

2. Starting the triple jump, **Katelynn Halstead (11)** sprints the course. Halstead was new to Nebraska Christian this year, and she was an asset to many sports teams.

3. **Laura Carlson (10)** passes the baton to **Carsyn Ostrand (10)** during the 1600 meter relay. The Nebraska Christian track team showed great teamwork in their events throughout the year, especially in the relays.

4. Nearing the finish line, **Harry Nguyen (12)** continues to power through the race at the Twin River JV track meet at Genoa. Because so many students were on the track team, several students didn't get to participate in many meets. Taking the JV team to Genoa allowed those students to gain more competitive experience.

5. Flying through the air, **Grace Langemeier (9)** leaps into the sand during the long jump at the Merrick County Invite at Central City. Langemeier had a great freshman season, qualifying for state in the long jump.

6. Flying into the sand pit, **Andrew Winsterman (12)** sticks his landing. Winsterman stepped up and showed great leadership to the team this year while working hard and improving himself.

by the numbers

32 Boys' Team Members

27 Girls' Team Members

8 State Qualifiers

(**Andrew Winsterman [12]**, **Laura Carlson [10]**, **Grace Langemeier [9]**, **Olivia Prettyman [10]**, **Ryan Dexter [10]**, **Sam Twogood [11]**, **Jon Dockweiler [10]**, **Noah Boersen [10]**)

8 State Entries

(girls' pole vault, girls' high jump, girls' long jump, girls' 800 meter run, girls' 1600 meter run, boys' 200 meter dash, boys' 400 meter dash, boys' 3200 meter relay)

1 State Medalist

(**Andrew Winsterman [12]**, 5th place, 200 meter dash)



Flying Again

Meeting the Demands

Track can be a physically and mentally demanding sport, and it takes courage and determination to make it through the season.

Luke Swanson (11) said, "*What I found hard about track was having to push through times when I failed.*" In the end though, after all of the tough workouts, it is completely worth it. The athletes had a sense of satisfaction that they pushed their hardest for the Lord.

Garrett Nokelby (9) said, "*After the hard workouts you have a feeling of*

accomplishment that you cannot have in any other sport." Track is a sport that not only helps keep you in shape, but also helps give you a sense of satisfaction.

When people think of track, they think of running and hard work. But there is so much more to it than that. Track is an individual exercise, along with team exercise. It builds strength, endurance, and most of all, team bonding.

- **Cole Ruybalid (12) & Jeremiah Ebel (12)**

meets

Merrick County Invite at Central City
Grand Island Central Catholic
Wood River
High Plains
Palmer at Fullerton
Central NE Track Championships
JV at Genoa (Twin River)
Cross County
Districts at Central City
State at Omaha



"I had lots of fun with my teammates. This year is my favorite."
- Shelby McHargue (7)

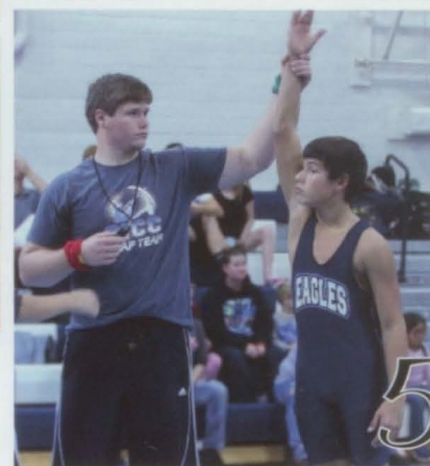


"Playing sports is a great chance to keep healthy and strengthen our team relationships."
- Teagan Haynes (7)



"My first year of junior high sports was definitely different than what I did in elementary, and the coaches gave me a totally different perspective on how to play."
- Conner Broman (7)

what sports memory sticks with you?



1. **Dayton Falk (7)** runs down the path, preparing to take off in the long jump. Falk enjoyed his first year on the track team.

2. **McKenzie Schweitzer (8)** runs in a cross country meet. Schweitzer was a two-sport athlete in the fall season, competing in both cross country and volleyball.

3. **Zach Egeland (7)** prepares to box out his opponent as he watches the ball bounce back from the hoop. Egeland wrestled and played basketball during the winter sports season.

4. **Shelby McHargue (7)** serves the ball in the junior high volleyball match versus Chapman-St. Libory. The Lady Eagles were coached by **Mr. Eric Zanger**.

5. Arm raised in victory, **Anthony Jividen (8)** is announced the winner of his match at the Grand Island Central Catholic meet. All junior high boys wrestled for a few weeks, then they had the option of continuing through the season or taking a study hall.

6. **Aidan Feely (7)** and Aidan Pipher (homeschool) rush forward while being blocked by Palmer defenders. The junior high football team fought valiantly and improved greatly over the season.

by the numbers

6 Sports Offered

20 Boys' Participants

11 Girls' Participants

9 Class Period for Sports Practices



New Experiences

Junior High school students have embraced the vision of a learning community founded on responsibility, respect, and safety, both inside and outside the classroom. One place they lived this out was on the sports field.

Olivia Janssen (8) said, "I had two great seasons with a great group of girls!" Junior high students not only did a variety of sports this year, but they also won a great honor for themselves. **Shelby Swanson (8)** said, "We have lots of fun together playing sports. I think sports help us get to

know each other's strengths and weakness."

Junior high sports allowed students to try all kinds of sports and determine which ones they wanted to keep doing in high school.

Junior high is a big step in students' lives because it is a huge change from elementary. Fortunately, the junior high students' teachers, coaches, and friends helped them navigate the uncharted waters.

- **Sophie Guo (12)**

sports

- Cross Country
- Volleyball
- Football
- Boys' Basketball
- Girls' Basketball
- Wrestling
- Track



"When we were scrimmaging, I shot a corner kick, and it curved right into the goal!"

- Skylar Swantek (10)



"Practicing during cold weather and [having] perfect teamwork in the game."

- Tom Kang (12)



"I got knocked out because Victor [Thai (12)] kicked the ball at my face. That hurt."

- Nick Vuong (11)

most memorable soccer moment?



1. **Curt Bailey (10)** sprints down the field in order to get to the action. Bailey said, "One of the funniest moments was when I tried being goalie in practice. I might have managed to block one shot by some miracle. Boy, am I glad that Barry [Zhang (10)] is our goalie in the games!"
2. The girls' soccer team plus their coach, **Mr. Eric Zanger**, all work together to carry the net from one side of the field to the other. The girls and boys teams did have to share a field, but in doing so grew stronger in their teamwork and compromise skills.
3. Teammates **G Nguyen (12)** and **Nick Vuong (11)** sit together as they observe the **Coach Clay Mankin** demonstrating a new drill. Sometimes in practices the players would have to do more watching and learning than physical workouts. However, both played an equal role in effective training.
4. Swerving in front of **Coach Eric Zanger** during practice, **Desiree Lutes (12)** steals the ball before the coach can even lift a toe. Although the girls did not have actual league games this year, the girls developed great soccer skills and had an overall gratifying season.

5. The NC boys' soccer team members sprint to their positions at their game against Grand Island Arsenal in order to prepare for a sideline kick from an opposing player. Working together to block the ball is a vital part of defense and overall teamwork on the field.
6. Blocking a goal from teammate **Jon Dockweiler (10)**, **Victor Thai (12)** thrusts out his leg to stop the ball from entering the goal. At the beginning of the season, the some of the boys tried out for goalie to see who would be the best candidate. Thai pulled through and exemplified great goalie skills.

by the numbers

13 team members	3 Chinese
6 games	4 Vietnamese
2 wins	1 Korean
4 losses	5 American

Boys

12 team members	1 Chinese
10 new players	1 Taiwanese
2 experienced players	1 Korean
	9 American

Girls



Making the Goal

Relaxation in Transition

Soccer is such an exciting sport. It's always moving, always shifting and always changing. There are no stop signs to this fast-paced activity.

Although this sport is so agile, there are often times when one must slow down in order to gain better control on his or her footwork. The player never stops; instead, he or she focuses more on control and precision while handling the ball. This can be compared to a high school student's every day life. Students are always moving, always working, but there are some moments where they must slow down and focus on much more important things.

Desiree Lutes' (12) said, "Sometimes while we were scrimmaging, Mr. [Eric] Zanger would mess up and say something so funny. We would all start laughing so hard we could barely play, so we would all stop and take a five-minute laughing break." Soccer is a perfect

way for hard-working students to let loose and escape from the busyness and stresses of high school.

To be able to get a break from the studies, studies and more studies and be free to engage in something the students truly love is enjoyable to say the least. Soccer is a fairly popular sport in the Asian cultures, and the students really do love it and being able to still participate in it even in a different country. **Khanh Nguyen (12)** said, "I had such a good time with amazing people in NC soccer. Mr. [Clay] Mankin taught us how to play together effectively and enhance our skills through many days of training. Although we lost some games, we learned lots of good lessons."

Having a soccer club has been a great privilege and will continue to impact the student's lives for years to come.

- **Hailee Broman (12)**

score box

NC		Opponent
3	GI Northwest	4
3	Aurora Gray	2
1	GI Strikers	5
2	Aurora Red	3
1	GI Arsenal	4
2	Aurora Gray	1



Experience

1

1. Harvesting seeds from a wild prairie plant, **Morgan Schulze (12)** and **Harry Nguyen (12)** gather the seeds for a research project the Botany class is doing. The Botany class had many field trips throughout the year, but the Prairie Wildlife Center was one of the favorites, and the students gathered so much information from the organization.

3. Fifth grade students **Christian Strobel, Landen Leonard, Richie Musgrave, Alexandra Bruning, Faith Springer, Rachel Hale, Amanda Needham, Kylie Merchant, Christopher Medlock, and MaKai Bolanos** pose for a picture at Stuhr Museum. Each elementary class visited Stuhr for the H.A.T.S. program, which features age-specific history lessons.



Making Great Friends

Numerous students at NC come to school on the first day and don't know what to expect during the year, and just want to survive till the next year. As they go through the year, however, they start to discover that many of the people they have met have the same interests. Students start to realize that if they take full advantage of the activities and events throughout the school year, like Homecoming, class trips, and service projects, they'll connect with other students and form great friendships.

Once high school is past and students move into adulthood, their friends will be one of the things that they most remember.

- Jeremiah Ebel (12)

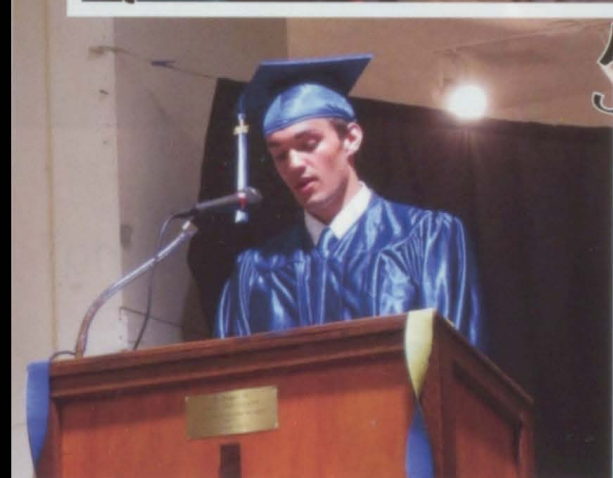


3. Expressing their excitement at the carnival, **Spencer Williams (11)** plays a game while **Taylor Morris (12)** cheers him on. NC students from preschool through 12th grade loved playing the carnival games and spending time with their friends.



4. **Sarah Simmons (12)**, **Minh Vu (12)**, and **Jeremiah Ebel (12)** look at the displays in the National Museum of American History in Washington, D.C. The museum was one of many Smithsonian Museums that the seniors visited in D.C. "It was interesting to learn the different things that were in America's history," said Ebel.

5. **Benny Stevens (12)**, one of three student speakers at graduation, urges his class to be salt and light as they go out into the world. **Juan Lasso Velasco (12)** and **Marilla Flynn (12)** were the other senior speakers.



how do friends impact your nc experience?



"I learn to work with my classmates and younger students at NC, and it makes school bearable when you have friends that have your back."

- Jeremiah Ebel (12)



"Friends have definitely helped me get through tough times, and they were always there when I needed a hand throughout high school."

- Andrew Winsterman (12)



"This school has amazing people, and many of them are making school easier to come to because they cheer me up."

- Katelynn Halstead (11)

Recalling Fond Memories

Homecoming is the traditional way to welcome back former students, but current students use it as a way to build school spirit. People dressed up during the Homecoming days and the student council organized the pep rally, providing some fun games. "I really enjoyed Homecoming! I loved all the dress up days and how the whole school came together on the last day to show our school pride and support our football team." **Emily Halstead (12)** said.

The traditional NC blue and white day showed the school spirit until the evening football game. That night, alumni and friends of the school joined in the fun at the football game.

Brayden Gustafson (11) said, "Homecoming was a fun time to dress up crazy and compete with other classes, but the football game was the best part of the week."

Homecoming always gives students and alumni great memories.

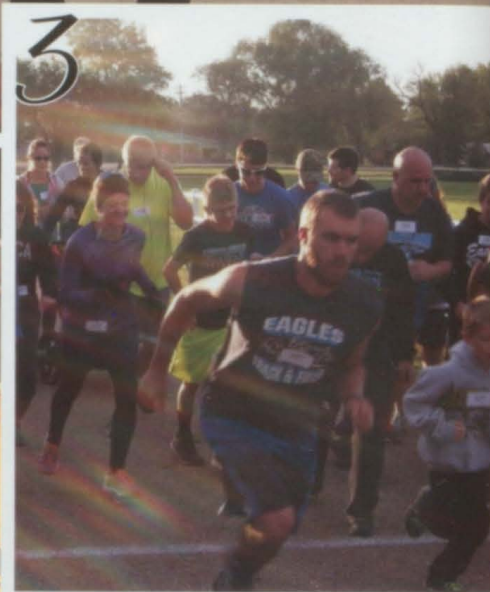
- **Sophie Guo (12)**

1. On Character Day, **Jon Dockweiler (10)** is Minecraft character Steve. Dockweiler, who made the costume himself, won the award for best character.

2. Freshman **Cory Ruybalid (center)**, surrounded by **Toby Watson (10)** and **Wendy Bornmann (12)**, speedwalks toward his teammate. The student council sponsored E-group games at the beginning of the year, and the finals were held at the Homecoming pep rally.

3. Runners take off from the start line at the first annual Homecoming 5K. Many students, staff, alumni, and friends of NC enjoyed running or walking the race.

4. **Spencer Williams (11)**, **Tim Hofmann (11)**, **Brennan Nokelby (11)**, **Ben Griess (11)**, and **Luke Swanson (11)** dress up for Decades Day. Each class chose a decade to dress from for the day, and the juniors chose the 1970's.



why do you like homecoming?



"From the first touchdown to standing on the float after the game, this was by far my favorite Homecoming and one that I'll never forget."

- **Desiree Lutes (12)**



"I really like homecoming because I can spend lots of time with my friends."

- **Grace Wu (12)**



"It was such a memorable week of dressing up. I glad to meet many students who graduated from the school, sharing what our lives had been like."

- **Cream Masatit (11)**

Building Spirit

Leading by Convening

The student council is in charge of lots of activities, including the blood drive, Homecoming, and pep rallies.

"I think there was not enough of the student council events. The council and I did our best to fill the year as much as we could. The events we did hold went very well, but ultimately we were only able to organize a few of them. I think that the student council events are a good way to improve the method of the school and give the students something to look forward to. I hope the council of next year class will be able

to continue these events." President **Juan Lasso Velasco (12)** said.

The purpose of student council is to build school spirit and enhance the student experience. **Hailee Broman (12)** said, "I think if there were a few more events, that would be amazing. The events that we did have were very creative and enjoyable for the student body. Students council events are a fun and interesting way to bring everyone together and have a small escape from the stress of high school life."

- **Sophie Guo (12)**

1. Student Council Officers **Juan Lasso Velasco (12)**, **Katie Nyberg (11)**, **Sarah Simmons (12)**, **Marilla Flynn (12)**, and Adviser **Becky Ritta** demonstrate one of the positions for a game at the Christmas pep rally. The game included the whole student body, and it led to lots of laughter.

2. **Cream Masatit (11)** does the limbo at the Christmas pep rally. "This game was so much fun, even though I lost!" she said.

3. Students play dodge ball during the E-group games. Dodge ball was one of three games in the tournament.

4. During the annual Red Cross blood drive, **Reagan Williams (12)** provides moral support for **Dayna James (12)** as James donates. The blood drive was a great opportunity for NC students to make an impact and give of themselves.

what do you like about
STUCO events?



"I really enjoyed the student council events. It is a great chance to do things together."

- **Alyssa Broman (8)**



"Even though the student council events were few, they were always fun—well thought out and something the student body and I enjoyed greatly."

- **Morgan Schulze (12)**



"They are a great way to bring our school closer together and a fun way to take a quick break from school!"

- **Katie Nyberg (11)**

Creating Memories

Student Council Events

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Festival Brings Christmas Joy

One of Nebraska Christian's many special events, the 11th Annual Festival of Lessons & Carols, appeared poised to go off without a hitch. On Friday, December 16, students from Nebraska Christian, High Plains, Central City, and area homeschools spent the morning rehearsing choral pieces with Maestro Eric Dale Knapp. After lunch, orchestra members joined the rehearsal in preparation for the evening concert.

By 3:30, everyone had been sent home. An ice storm had moved into the area, making the roads treacherous.

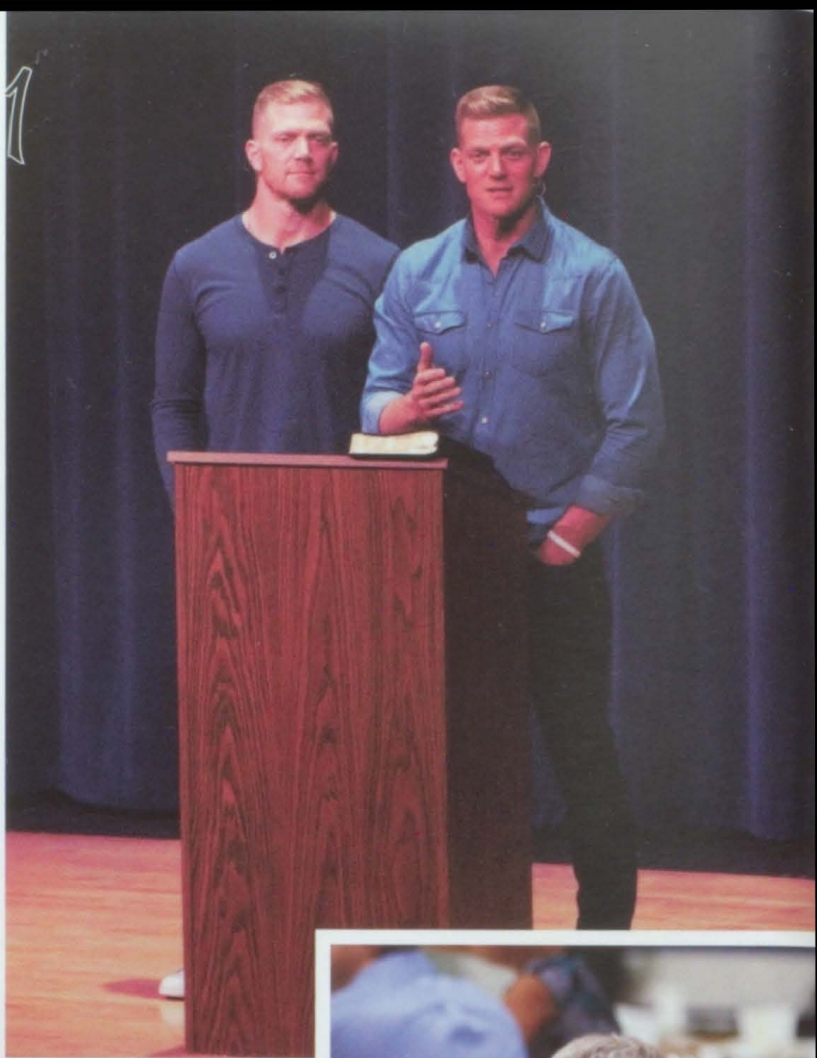
The Festival was postponed until Saturday afternoon. While not all of the choir and orchestra members were able to return Saturday,

about 75% of the orchestra and 70% of the choir participated.

Approximately 450 people braved the cold to experience the Festival. **Jody Heuermann**, the Festival Coordinator, said, "The event went extraordinarily well considering the inclement weather. Those in attendance were moved and touched by the program." Special Events Assistant **Deana Leonard** agreed, saying, "I thought things went very well. God provided in little ways to make it a blessing to all those who made the effort to participate in or attend the Festival."

Though the event didn't go as planned, it still was a blessing to all involved.

• Miss Becky Ritta



1. Jason and David Benham, the Benham Brothers, speak to a crowd at the Performing Arts Center in Central City. NC invited the Benhams and their father, Flip, to speak to the community at the PAC event, as well as spend time with students the following day.

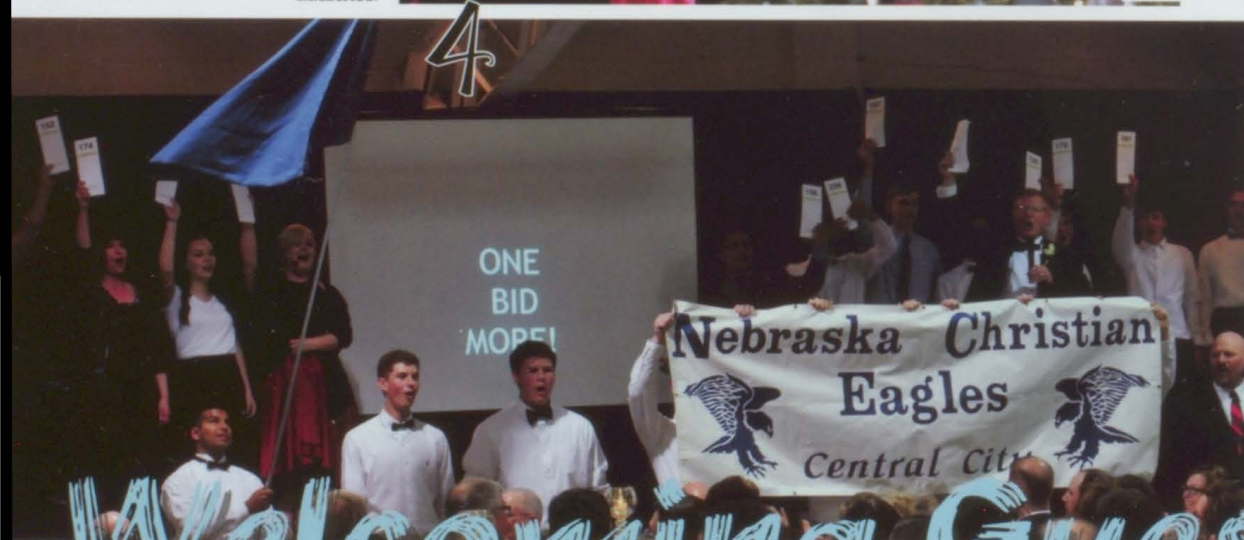
2. The NC Octet, including Danae Burdett (11), Juan Lasso Velasco (12), and Marilla Flynn (12), sings during the Festival of Lessons & Carols.

Everyone involved with the Festival put in a lot of time and practice to make sure it was a meaningful experience for the audience.



3. At the Harvest Festival, Alyssa Springer (4) looks over the program with Greta Swanson. Springer, along with the other elementary students, sang several songs for the crowd.

4. Just prior to the beginning of the live auction at the Dinner & Benefit Auction, several students and staff members sing "One Bid More," based on the song "One Day More" from *Les Miserables*. Each year, guests enjoy a clever song enticing them to bid.



Welcoming Guests

Showing Our Love

In John 13:35, Jesus says, "Your love for one another will prove to the world that you are my disciples" (NLT). One way to show love for others is through service, and Nebraska Christian students embraced the opportunity to serve their teachers, the NC community, those in the Central City area, and the world through various projects and events throughout the year.

The annual service day, when 7-12 students spend an afternoon working in the community, saw fewer student workers this year, as the day was scheduled the same day as music contest. However, the students who

did work gave it their all.

"The girls who worked at our house had a dirty, dirty job, and they worked so hard. It really blessed me," said Mrs. Sara Musgrave.

Other students made meals for **Mr. David Gee**, who had back surgery in the spring, and for the Merrick County Sheriff and deputies. Still others worked at Mission Heart, Bader Park, and Covenant Cedars.

Whether they participated in the service day or one of the other service opportunities, NC students learned there is true joy in serving others.

- Miss Becky Ritta

1. **Jean Joy Kamau (12)** stirs together a casserole for industrial technology teacher **Mr. David Gee** during the spring service day. Kamau's group made three meals for Gee and his wife following his back surgery.

2. **Andrew Feely (11)** and **Janie Mousel (12)** serve appetizers to guests at the annual Dinner & Benefit Auction. Dozens of students volunteered their time to help with the auction.

3. During the service afternoon, **Taylor Morris (12)** and **Landon Barcel (11)** try to fix a well at **Rich & Sara Musgrave's** house. Morris enjoyed putting his plumbing knowledge to work during the day.

4. **Anna Li (12)** and **Gladys Choi (12)** fill water glasses before the Harvest Festival. Choir members always serve water and coffee at the event, which is a "thank you" to NC supporters.

why do you serve the Lord?



"Because He is worthy of it. We want to be stewards not only for the community but for the glory of God."

- Joel Poppe (11)



"Serving is one of the fruits of my salvation; Christ was crucified and died for me. Serving people is just a fruit of that."

- Brayden Gustafson (11)



"It's simple, because Jesus saved my life."

- Brennan Nokelby (11)

Serving Others

Service

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Learning Outside the Classroom

Every year, each elementary class goes on its own trip to the Stuhr Museum, and students learned a variety of knowledge. For example, the sixth graders studied 19th Century technology. **Amy Springer (6)** said, "We went to a writing place; it was a newspaper office which shows to us how to print and check over mistakes, ink, press on the circle things, and find mistakes

on it. It was a interesting experience that we went to a house which we used the telephone, we can hear each other through it."

The third graders studied transportation at Stuhr Museum. **Julia Merchant (3)** said, "I saw the engineer when they blocking tracks, it was amazing to see people did things than just studying."

The students all enjoyed their various field trips.

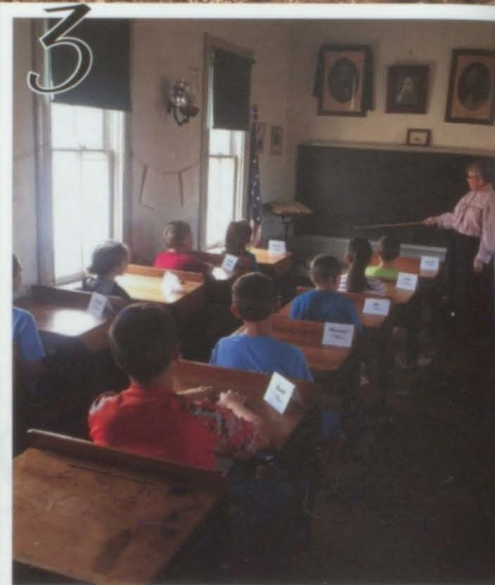
- Corina Ge(12)

1. Elementary students enjoy their day at the Lincoln Children's Zoo. The students also visited the State Capitol. **Mrs. Verna Zaruba** said, "It was a terrific day; we have nice kids."

2. **Nathan Fetterley (4)** and **Landen Leonard (5)** pause for a picture at the Nebraska State Fair. The elementary students enjoyed their day at the fair.

3. At Stuhr Museum, the teacher gives a lecture to elementary students. The fourth graders studied what school was like in the frontier days on their Stuhr Museum field trip.

4. The preschoolers take a picture at the new Widman Cinema. They also visited Central City Family Dental on their field trip.



favorite field trip?



"My favorite field trip is the one we went to Lincoln because the animals at the zoo make me feel happy."

- Rachel Hale (5)



"My favorite field trip is the zoo trip because it was fun, and I love animals."

- Gabe Langemeier (6)



"I like the trip we went on to the capital because we went on the top of the building. I would go on the trip again."

- Hope Franke (6)

Learning Together

New Experiences Outside of School

Students in different classes go on different kinds of field trips each year.

This year botany class was added to NC's curriculum. Botany students went on multiple field trips. **Morgan Schulze (12)** says, "My favorite field trip is the Prairie Plains, as we were able to learn about plants." NC Botany class observed a variety of seeds with different shapes, so they could get a better understanding about plants.

Dayna James (12) said a different botany field trip

was her favorite. "Going to the vineyard was my favorite field trip. We learned how to take care of plants."

The art show was a meaningful experience for art students. The art show, through watching plenty of art works from others, improved students' ability to appreciate art. **Anna Li (12)** said, "I saw so many amazing masterpiece in art show, I could not believe people could be so creative. God gave great talent to them, the beauty of the show revealed it."

- **Corina Ge (12)**

1. **Keziah Dexter (11)** and **Katelynn Halstead (11)** draw on a huge piece of paper on the table. Students who attended the art show not only got to observe art, but they were able to create art, as well.

2. **Reagan Williams (12)** and others in the botany class listen as a Prairie Plains Institute employee explains plants. Students collected many seeds to be grown in the greenhouse.

3. Juniors and seniors watch *The Case for Christ* at the theater. The students enjoyed spending an afternoon at the Widman Theater instead of in class.

4. **Sophie Guo (12)**, **Corina Ge (12)**, **Hailee Broman (12)**, **Jeremiah Ebel (12)**, and **Cole Ruybalid (12)** wait for the yearbook conference to begin. The conference gave the students many great ideas.

what do you like about field trips?



"I liked the prairie field trip. It's fun to go out of classroom and learn more for life than just for school."

- **Janie Mousel (12)**



"We learn so much online and at school. When we go somewhere, we can touch and see everything in our life."

- **Daniel Myers (11)**



"Going to the movie is my favorite field trip because the movie was very meaningful, and I enjoyed being outside of school."

- **Melinda Kim (11)**



Getting Away

Secondary Trips

Broadening Horizons

The Class Of 2017 traveled to Washington, D.C. for senior trip. This is an educational trip which provided the seniors a great opportunity not only to study United States history and government out of class, but also to broaden their horizons.

The seniors started by boarding a plane from the Omaha airport. For some seniors, this was their first time on an airplane. With excitement, the senior trip began.

Mr. Carl Ostrand led the class to some great museums, which impacted and impressed the students very much. For example,

after going through the Holocaust museum, **Sophie Guo (12)** said, "I think it is very meaningful because it showed us when Hitler became chancellor of Germany and blamed the Jews for World War I. I have been thinking a lot about the tremendous harmful results to people."

Students obtained a great range of knowledge that expressed their feelings about museum. **Cole Ruybalid (12)** said, "The Holocaust museum got me really emotional, it was defiantly worth it. It showed us the sinful nature of man."

The museums are one of the great highlights of the senior trip.

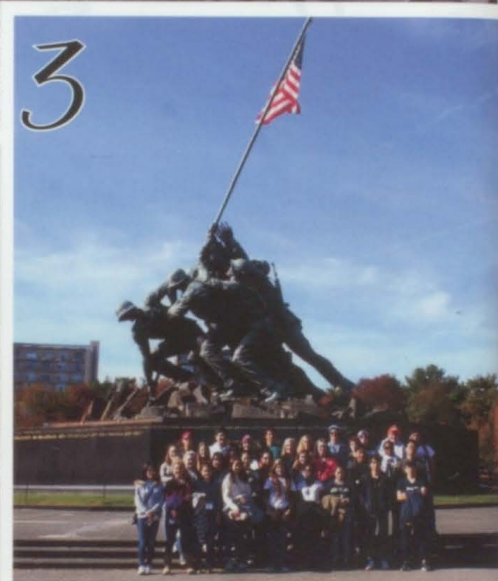
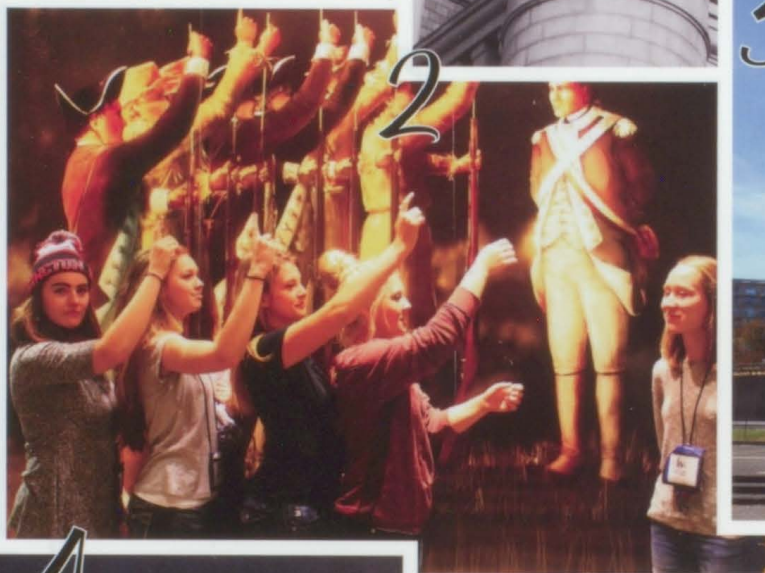
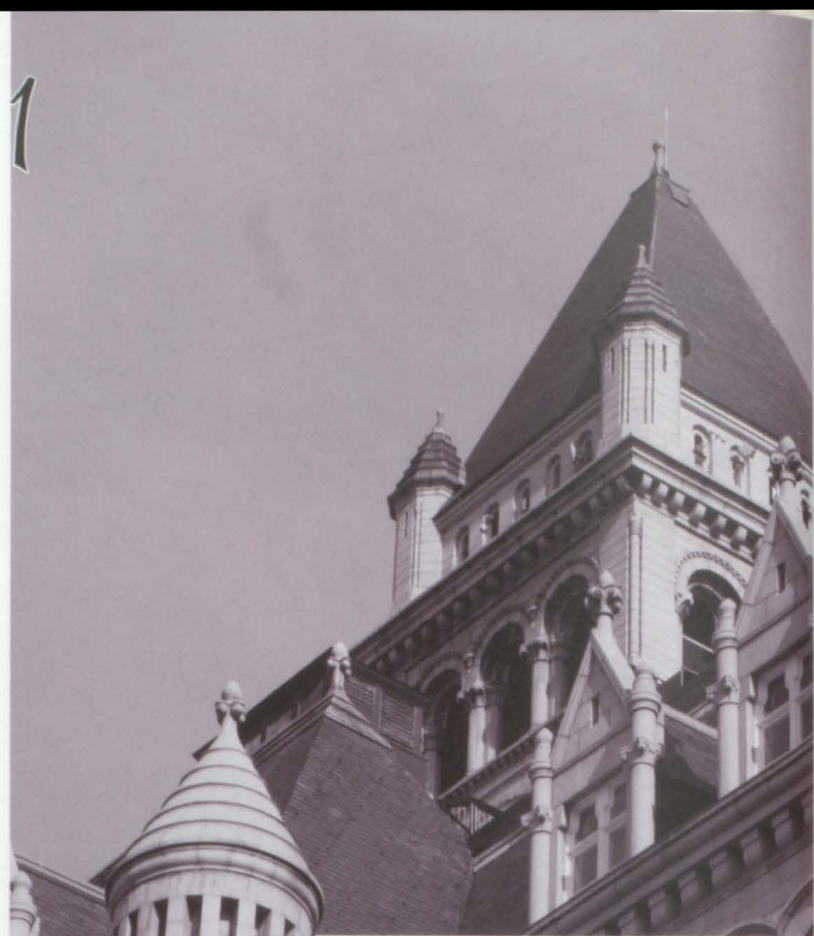
- Corina Ge (12)

1. Two days before the election, the seniors pass by the Trump International Hotel. Many seniors and sponsors voted early, as they were in D.C. on election day.

2. Seniors **Wendy Bornmann, Janie Mousel, Dayna James, Reagan Williams, and Emily Halstead** pose in front of a Revolutionary War mural in the American History museum. The seniors visited many Smithsonian museums while in D.C.

3. The Seniors pose by the Marine Corps Memorial. They walked to the memorial after visiting Arlington National Cemetery.

4. At the FDR Memorial, **Ann Nguyen (12), Khanh Nguyen (12), Vu Thai (12), Minh Vu (12), and G Nguyen (12)** pose with a statue. The students visited the memorial during a night tour of the monuments.



favorite part of the trip?



"The art museum was my favorite because there was so much to look at, and I loved seeing famous paintings in person."

- Hailee Broman (12)



"I would say it was Arlington National Cemetery. We saw the sacrifice that American men and women made for this great nation."

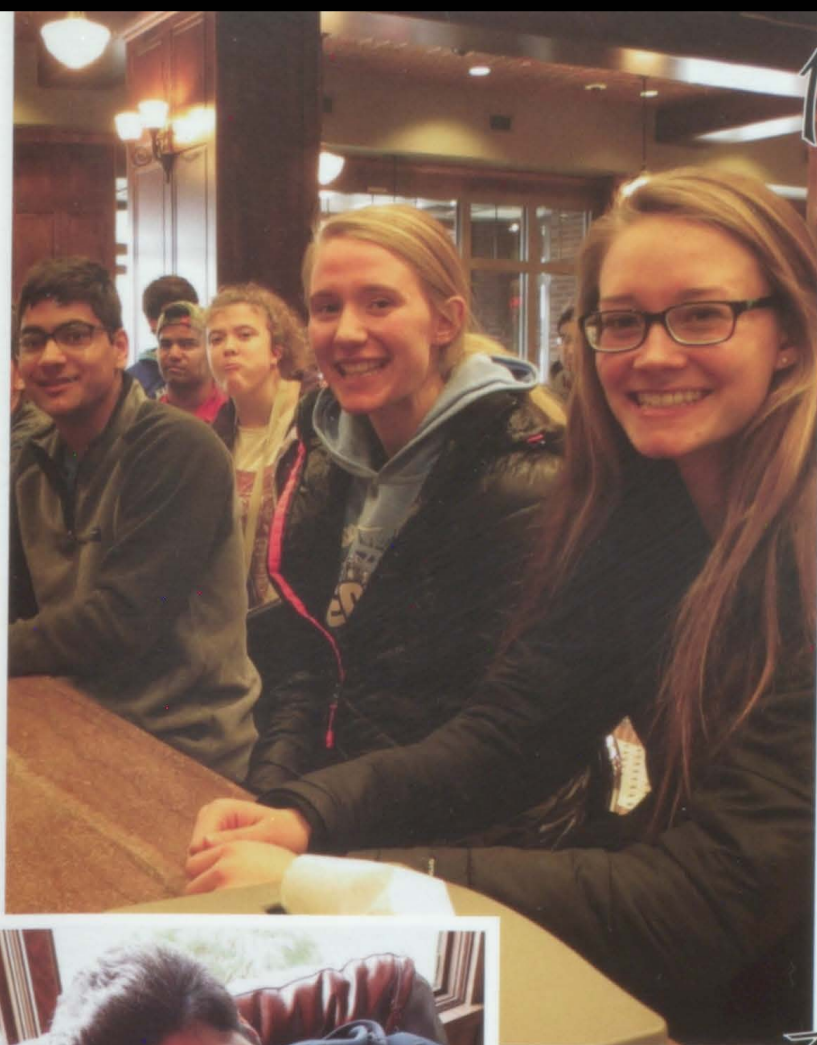
- Jeremiah Ebel (12)



"It was one thing to read about the monuments in the history book, but it was totally different seeing them in person. It really brought them to life actually being there."

- Desiree Lutes (12)

Exploring History



Preparing for the Future

Every March, the Nebraska Christian junior class takes a trip to Minneapolis, Minnesota, to visit several colleges and worldview speaker David Wheaton, shop, and spend time together.

To have a better understanding of different kinds of college education, they went to the University of Northwestern - St. Paul and the University of Minnesota.

To become a closer bonded class, the juniors went shopping at the Mall of

America and went ice skating. They had a great time together.

One of the highlights was visiting David Wheaton's house. **Danae Burdett (11)** said: "My favorite part for junior trip was singing around the piano at David Wheaton's house. I enjoyed worshiping with my friends."

Students also enjoyed hanging out at the hotel. Joel Poppe (11) said, "I loved the time that we spent in our hotel. Chilling, playing games, and hanging out with others."

- Corina Ge (12)

1. Juniors **Chase Tate, Joel Poppe, Lydia Langemeier, Corryn Falk, and Claire Ostrand** take a picture together in Minnesota. The juniors enjoyed getting away and getting to know each other better.

2. **Richard Zhao (11)** reads a book to David Wheaton's son. The juniors loved spending time at Wheaton's house.

3. **Joel Kaczor (11), Brayden Gustafson (11), Daniel Myers (11), Andrew Feely (11), Luke Swanson (11), Landon Barcel (11), and JiHa Kim (11)** take a tour of the University of Minnesota. The juniors also toured Northwestern.

4. At David Wheaton's house, **Anna Musgrave (11)** and other juniors sing around the piano. Some juniors said that was their favorite portion of the trip.

what did you love about the trip?



"It was a great time to spend with my classmates. We had so much fun, and through this trip, everybody became closer."

- Andrew Feely (11)



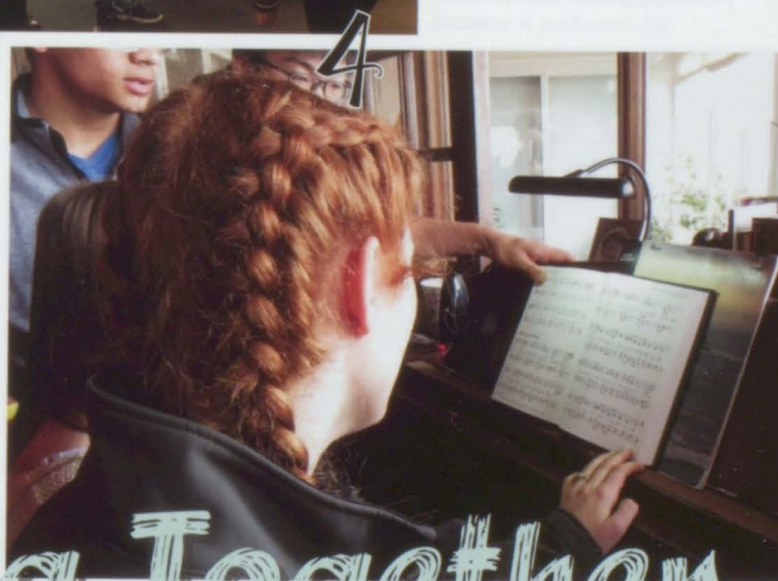
"I liked the junior trip because I spent a lot of time with my friends. We had so much fun at the hotel."

- Ruby Yang (11)



"Junior trip was really fun because of the bonding. We had to grow closer as a class and really see how fun it was to be together."

- Brayden Gustafson (11)



Traveling Together

Junior Trip

Honoring Others

A big part of the honor banquet this year was the service. The parents put a lot in to set things up, and the juniors worked to serve the seniors. **Emily Halstead (12)** said, "The juniors did an amazing job organizing the Honor Banquet this year. It was very obvious that they put a lot of work and planning into it. The decorations were beautiful, the food was delicious, and the after party was a blast."

Not only was it incredible that the juniors worked hard to serve the seniors, but it was a lesson for everyone. The Honor Banquet is not just honoring the seniors, but it is also honoring the Lord. And service is a great way to honor the Lord. **Jessica Hilderbrand (11)** said, "I feel like serving others was a great way to show God's love and to show the seniors how much we care about them."

The juniors and seniors learned from this night a lesson that will last them a lifetime. This lesson is a lesson in serving the Lord and serving others, just like Jesus did during his walk on Earth.

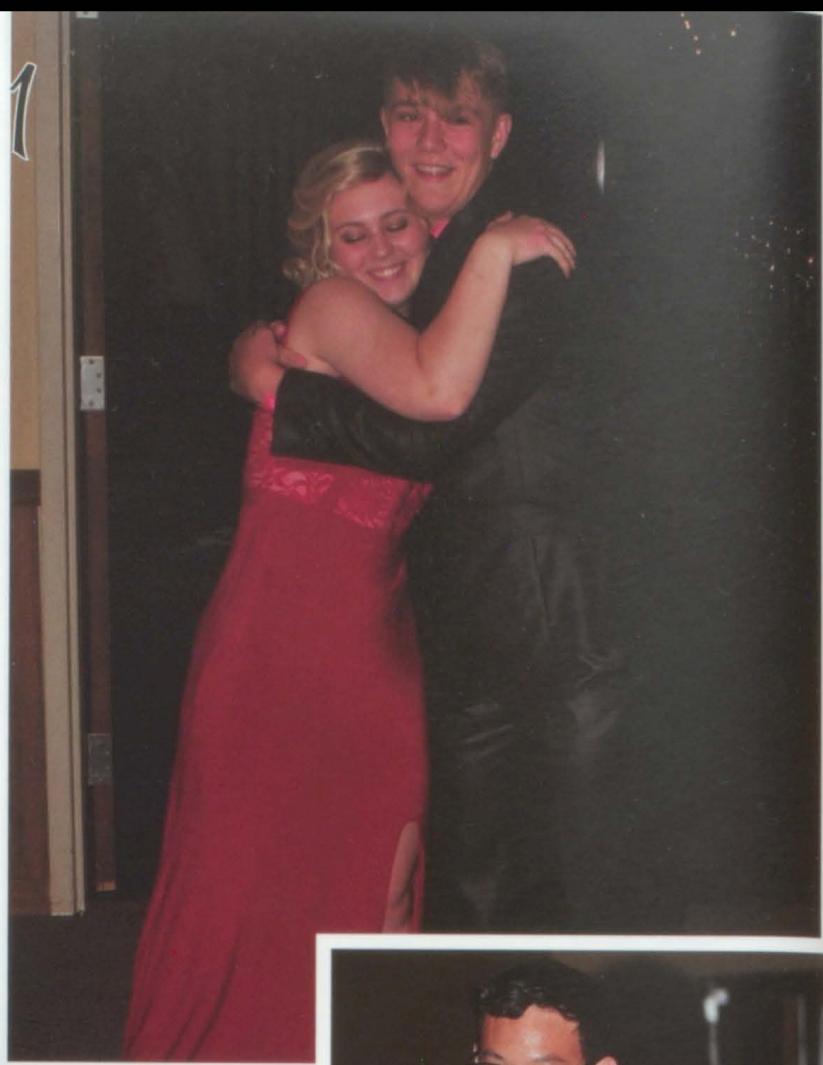
- Cole Ruybalid (12)

1. Siblings **Reagan Williams (12)** and **Spencer Williams (11)** pause for a hug while Spencer escorts Reagan to her seat. The juniors escorted the seniors and their guests to their seats.

2. **Jean Joy Kamau (11)** pours water for senior **Wendy Bornmann's** dad Dan. The juniors had the honor of serving the seniors and their parents at the banquet.

3. During the Honor Banquet, **Harry Nguyen (12)** smiles as **Mr. Josh Cumpston** reads the good things students had to say about Nguyen. Each senior was honored by others' kind words.

4. Enjoying their evening together, **Morgan Schulze (12)** and her parents Linda and Tim pause for a picture. Because the focus of the Honor Banquet is honoring the seniors, the seniors' parents and pastors were invited to attend.



best part of the honor banquet?



"My favorite part was being able to serve the seniors who led and served us."

- Andrew Feely (11)



"I loved seeing our whole class together and realizing how far we've come. God has certainly blessed our class, and I can't wait to see what great things He will do with us!"

- Hailee Broman (12)



"The greatest part for me was being able to share some words of wisdom to the underclassmen. Little moments like that are the ones that will stay with us forever."

- Janie Mousel (12)

Serving Others

The Next Chapter

As the seniors graduate, one chapter of their book of life is over, and the next one has begun. It was at this point in time where the seniors finally realized that all good things must come to an end, and that they must move forward and create a new beginning. **Desiree Lutes (12)** said, "I'm very excited to move on from high school. I may not know what my future holds, but I'm eager to go on the adventure that God has planned out for my life."

Even though some of the seniors may never see each other again, there is a special

bond that will always hold them together. Many of the teachers and students could see that there was something unique about this class.

Kendyl Jividen (9) said, "I think this year's senior class was more involved with the underclassmen than seniors from previous years."

The next chapter is different for each senior: some of them are going to college, some into the military, some into the workforce, and some just taking a break. Either way, the bond will still be alive.

- **Cole Ruybalid (12)**

1. Standing at the podium, **Juan Lasso Velasco (12)** gives his speech during graduation. Lasso, who served as student council president his senior year, spent a lot of time preparing his speech as it would be his last time addressing the Nebraska Christian community as a whole.

2. Hanging a streamer for the graduation decorations, senior class co-president **Andrew Winsterman (12)** stays focused on his task. A goal for many of the seniors was to make the graduation ceremony unique and memorable.

3. **Tommy Flynn (12)** looks on in amusement as his cousin **Marilla Flynn (12)** shoots off her popper. The senior class officers got permission to place poppers under the seat of each graduate to be shot off upon the promouncement of graduation.

4. The seniors toss their hats in celebration of finally finishing high school. The hat toss is often one of the most memorable moments of graduation day.

favorite senior memory?



"Senior trip. Getting to see all the monuments and getting to grow closer to my classmates was amazing."

- **Tommy Flynn (12)**



"My favorite senior memory is looking at all the monuments and learning about the symbolism and history of those monuments in Washington D.C. with Mrs. Hoff."

- **Wendy Bornmann (12)**



"Singing the senior girls song at the PAC concert."

- **Morgan Schulze (12)**



The Big Ex17

Graduation

57



Connect

1. **Wendy Bornmann (12)** and **Danae Burdett (11)** perform their OID, *Arsenic and Old Lace*, at a speech meet. The OID team, which also included **Jeremiah Ebel (12)**, **Micah Loy (9)**, and **Hailee Broman (12)**, had a very successful season, winning first place at the conference speech meet.

2. During the Homecoming pep rally, Student Council Vice President **Marilla Flynn (12)** and Treasurer **Katie Nyberg (11)** explain the finale of the E-group competition. At the beginning of the year, the student council ran a month-long series of games where E-groups competed against each other. The top teams from each game competed in the finals during the pep rally.

2



Uncovering Hidden Talents

Each Nebraska Christian student has different gifts and interests. One person may love acting, while another prefers to serve behind the scenes on the student council. But whatever a student's particular interest, he or she is sure to find an activity that leads to connecting with others and a sense of belonging.

Sometimes, this connection and belonging comes as a surprise, as a student takes a chance and participates in an activity that pushes him or her outside of the comfort zone. Other times, students have eagerly awaited the opportunity to let their talents shine. Either way, Nebraska Christian students find their school experience enhanced by the activities in which they participate.

- Jeremiah Ebel (12) & Miss Becky Ritta

3



3. As Captain Schroeder, **Juan Lasso Velasco (12)** portrays his anguish as he realizes the Jewish refugees on his ship will not be allowed into Cuba or the United States. This year's one-act play, *937*, told the story of Jews fleeing Germany during the Holocaust.

4. **Marlie Mundt (6)** and **Sarah Lasso (6)** sing "It's All About Me" during the elementary's production of the Patch the Pirate play *Operation Arctic*. Each year, the elementary presents a Patch the Pirate musical at the Performing Arts Center in Central City.

5. During the Spring Concert, **Cole Ruybalid (12)** plays a solo as part of a Jazz Band number. The Jazz Band, comprised of a few of the concert band members, was a big hit at the concert.



5



what's your favorite high school memory?



"We were playing kick ball and **Janie Mousel (12)** was running to third base and **Benny Stevens (12)** threw the ball at her legs and she flipped."

- Tommy Flynn (12)



"Being able to be on the varsity four by one team in track and doing activities with the boys dorm."

- Rocky Wang (11)

Playing Stories

2



3



Many new students rolled into band class this year, causing the size of the band to grow immensely. They also had some very difficult songs to play. **Marilla Flynn (12)** said, "We've had some really hard songs; for a long time it didn't look like we were going to pull it off, but we got it."

For many the past several years, the band has received a "one" at conference and district competition. While some band members doubted if they would be able to pull it off this year, they ultimately succeeded. **Micah Smith (11)** said, "Districts didn't seem like much of a challenge honestly, because after some practice we had a very good band and a great teacher."

- Cole Ruybalid (12)



1. Elementary band members (clockwise from far left) **Riley Schreiber (6)**, **MaKai Bolanos (5)**, **Landen Leonard (5)**, **Cooper Schnell (6)**, **Gabe Langemeier (6)**, **Hope Franke (6)**, and **Sarah Lasso (6)** play with the elementary band during the Spring Concert. All fifth and sixth grade students took band.

2. Rehearsing during band class, **Mr. Mike Flynn** works with **Jayden Leonard (9)** and **Jonathan Needham (7)** in the percussion section. Each section had to work and master their parts in order to create a good band.

3. Brothers **Cory Ruybalid (9)** and **Cole Ruybalid (12)** play together in Cole's final high school band concert. The brothers enjoyed being able to participate in band together.

4. Warming up for Pep band, **Jessica Hilderbrand (11)**, **Tabitha Seip (7)**, **McKenna Leonard (8)**, and **Jessica James (9)** practice their music together. Pep band was a lot of fun for the students, especially the outdoor ones for football.

5. At the Spring Concert, **Madison Felt (10)** plays a flute duet with **Lydia Langemeier (11)**. Students who received a "one" ranking at conference or district music performed during the Spring Concert.

what's your favorite instrument and why?



"Clarinet, because it is my very first instrument. It can play as low as a saxophone and as high as a flute. It gives me range."
- Jessica Hilderbrand (11)



"I just really love the sound of a French horn."
- Alyssa Broman (8)



"I really like the sound of a saxophone. It's also the most important instrument for jazz band."
- Lizzy Powers (7)



favorite choir memory?



"The excitement when we were having ensemble auditions. Being nervous but excited when he was mixing around the different voices was memorable."

- Bekah Feddersen (10)



"I think it was when I passed out on stage and woke up again. That was my craziest moment."

- Ben Janssen (10)



"Getting my terrible fake nails, which I like to call claws, done on choir tour. It was so hard to sing with them that long."

- Katelynn Halstead (11)



For the spring choir tours, the choir sang at many churches and a few nursing homes.

Many of the choir students understood just how important those choir concerts were. **Keith Wasomi (9)** said, "It makes me happy to know that we are transforming people's lives for the glory of God."

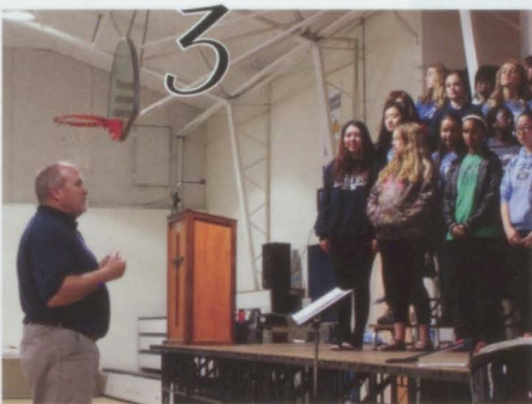
Knowing that they are making a difference has inspired many of the students to continue learning more about

music. And for those who haven't been inspired, they have at least learned something from choir.

Faith Franke (9) said, "My experience in choir hasn't inspired me, however, I have learned from my experience in choir."

The Nebraska Christian choir continues to change the lives of many students and families across Nebraska. Many would say that it has been an instrument in God's plan.

- Cole Ruybalid (12)



1. **Mr. Mike Flynn** directs the choir in a song for the filming of the Nebraska Christian promotional video. Nebraska Christian hired professional videographers to make a promotional video for the upcoming school years.

2. **Bekah Feddersen (10)** sings her vocal solo at the Goldenrod Conference Music Contest. Many band and choir students also took individual or small group entries to the competition.

3. Rehearsing for the Harvest Festival, the Nebraska Christian choir tries to figure out where to line up for the performance. The Harvest Festival is a key event to help keep Nebraska Christian funded.



4. The Master's Musicians, including (clockwise from top left) **Ben Janssen (10)**, **Brennan Nokolby (11)**, **Daniel Myers (11)**, **Wendy Bornmann (12)**, **Hailee Broman (12)**, and **Sharon Yu (11)**, sing during graduation. Graduation is always the last performance of the year for the band, choir, and ensemble.

5. During the Festival of Lessons & Carols, NC Octet members **Chase Tate (11)**, **Reagan Williams (12)**, and **Ben Janssen (10)** sing for the audience. **Mr. Mike Flynn** selected the octet members out of the Master's Musicians.



Recreating History



The 2016 one-act team tackled a difficult play in the form of 937, a historical drama by Don Zolidis about a ship full of Jewish refugees fleeing the hands of Nazism during the Shoah (The Holocaust). The play was a challenge that the team embraced.

Many characters and props were cut from the original script as the performance could be no longer than 30 minutes. Timing was of the essence as their first performance was drawing closer.

Backstage crew member **Kelby Gustafson (9)** said, "When I actually realized it was coming closer, I was very nervous. I was worried I'd mess something up backstage." After a rough performance at conference, the team placed third out of eight at the district competition, leaving the team satisfied with their final performance. **Halle Strong (10)** said, "The first performance was a little rough, but by the last performance I think we pulled it off pretty well."

The memories of this year will live on, as the students recall recreating one of history's darkest times.

- Cole Ruybalid (12)

1. **Curt Bailey (10)** and **Anna Musgrave (11)** begin a flirtation that will soon blossom into love. Their love didn't last, however, as Musgrave's character, Elise, was murdered at the end of the play.

2. **Anna Musgrave (11)** and **Cole Ruybalid (12)** recreate a powerful scene in the play, in which Musgrave's character is murdered by Ruybalid's. "It was definitely a scene that I wanted to remember forever: I never want something like this to happen again," said Ruybalid.

3. **Jessica James (9)** and **Amy Hilderbrand (9)** play crew members telling passengers **Faith Franke (9)**, **Jessica Hilderbrand (11)**, and **Lydia Langemeier (11)** where to go. This took place in the background while Jacob and Elise had their final scene together.

4. **Juan Lasso Velasco (12)**, playing Captain Schroeder, gets upset with **Trang Doan (12)**, playing Cuban Ambassador Benitez, for not letting the refugees into Cuba. Doan was initially nervous about her part of the play. "But then it hit me like a brick, we all practiced hard, let's shine now!" she said.

5. **Cole Ruybalid (12)** and **Jessica James (9)** salute the Nazi flag with stiff arms as **Talia Parlane (9)** stands at attention. This scene illustrated the loyalty of the Nazi party, a loyalty that made some students uncomfortable. **Micah Smith (11)** said, "It felt weird being a Nazi. I certainly didn't want to wave that flag around when we weren't performing."

favorite one act memory?



"Probably the part where I ad-libbed 'why not?' in an important scene between Anna [Musgrave (11)] and me."

- Curt Bailey (10)



"Getting my fantastic eyebrows drawn on by Carsyn [Ostrand (10)] every morning before a performance!"

- Anna Musgrave (11)



Pretending to hold up a neon sign and call Anna [Musgrave (11)] moody.

- Lydia Langemeier (11)



favorite speech memory?



"I think my favorite part was the excitement when I received my first medal. Everyone else seemed just as excited as I was."

- Arwen Zhang (10)



"I really enjoyed watching York's OI team. Theatre is something I really aspire to excel at and York's team always pushes me to better myself as a performer."

- Wendy Bornmann (12)



"I loved getting to work with the team; seeing everyone work as a team made the entire season worth it."

- Cole Ruybalid (12)

Students rise to the challenge as the speech season gets underway. Many new members joined the team in 2017, while the varsity continued to pursue excellence.

Standing in front of a group of people to speak is difficult for most people, but NC speech students welcome the challenge.

Stephanie Strobel (9) said, "The night before our first meet, I couldn't sleep. On the way there, Micah [Loy (9)] and I read over our lines the entire way. When we were finished with the day, I felt relieved that it was

over and that we overcame the challenge."

Throughout the season, the team spent a lot of time together, bonding and forming solid friendships. They helped each other to grow and become stronger leaders

Lydia Langemeier (11) said, "I loved getting to know the team more and getting to watch other team members' events."

The saying "teamwork makes the dream work" is very true in this case. Everyone worked as a team, and through this process, they were all able to rise above.

- Cole Ruybalid (12)



5

1. During a break in the action, **Morgan Schulze (12)** and **Danae Burdett (11)** talk about how they did in their rounds and make a plan for their next round. The team made it a priority this year to see how others did and to be encouraging.

2. **Alex Hao (12)** and **Marilla Flynn (12)** perform their duet for the judges. Hao and Flynn had struck up a friendship and worked hard for a successful season. They cut the musical *Into the Woods* for their duet.

3. **Hailee Broman (12)** and **Wendy Bornmann (12)** portray **Jeremiah Ebel's (12)** crazy aunts in their OI *Arsenic and Old Lace*. Though the OI had a slow start, the team ended up being very successful throughout the season.

4. **Jessica Hilderbrand (11)** performs her entertainment for friends and family at the speech showcase. Hilderbrand competed in both entertainment and informative.

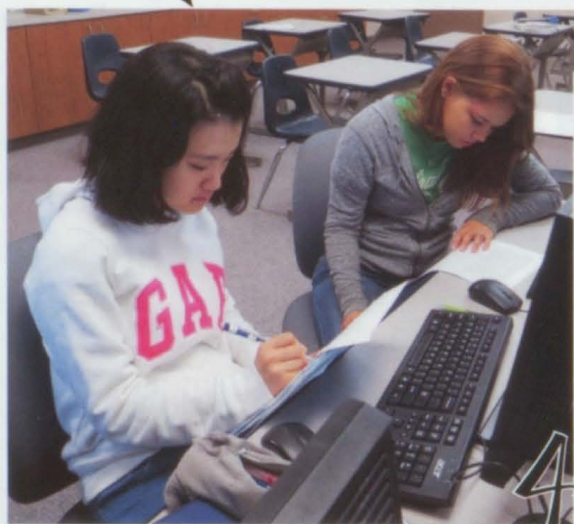
5. **Micah Loy (9)** plays **Stephanie Strobel's (9)** driving instructor during an out of control driving test. Loy and Strobel worked on their duet almost every day and had a very successful novice season.

Pursuing Excellence

Speech

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Telling the Story



1. **Cole Ruybalid (12)** and **Jeremiah Ebel (12)** sell a yearbook ad to **Dale Palser** of **Palser's Service**. At the beginning of the school year, the yearbook staff spend a couple weeks selling yearbook ads around the Central City area.

2. Dressed as **The Doctor** from *Doctor Who*, **Cole Ruybalid (12)** snaps a photo on **Character Day** of **Homecoming week**. In addition to being the **Business Manager**, Ruybalid also took many of the photos seen in the yearbook.

3. **Corina Ge (12)**, **Sophie Guo (12)**, **Jeremiah Ebel (12)**, and **Cole Ruybalid (12)** show off the mugs they got for **Christmas**. For the second consecutive year, the yearbook staff held a "mug swap" just before **Christmas**, and staff members enjoyed picking out the perfect mug and other gifts for the person whose name they drew.

4. Concentrating on the papers in front of them, **Corina Ge (12)** proofreads a classmate's page while **Hailee Broman (12)** edits another student's page. In order to catch as many errors as possible, all pages were proofread by two students before going to **Broman** for editing and then to **Adviser Becky Ritta** for final changes.

5. Editor and head photographer **Hailee Broman (12)** snaps a picture of the band on group picture day. Because of the small staff, **Broman** had to pull double duty as both editor and photographer.

The 2016-2017 yearbook staff was small but mighty. Because only five students were in the class instead of the normal eight to twelve students, each staff member had to take on nearly twice the usual responsibility. **Business manager Cole Ruybalid (12)**, a second-year staffer, said, "There's so much to do. It's very stressful, and I sometimes worry that we won't get it done. But we will. We have to."

Though it would have been tempting to do so, the staff didn't take the easy route when choosing a theme for the book. Editor **Hailee Broman (12)** explained, "The theme 'Every Eagle Has a Story' was born when we were all sitting in yearbook one day, brainstorming about our theme. I looked around and saw that each member had different ideas, thoughts, and opinions. It got me wondering, what's their story? So that's when we decided to make the yearbook about the students, the staff, the people. How has God used you this year? How have you grown? What IS your story?"

Implementing the theme required the staff to be vigilant in connecting with students and staff members to learn their stories and put them in the book, but they finished with a book that does truly tell the stories of the diverse Eagles.

- **Miss Becky Ritta**

what's the best thing about yearbook?



"My favorite aspect of yearbook is looking at all kinds of pictures and listening to music while I'm working on my pages."

- **Corina Ge (12)**



"I've learned a variety of skills, including computers and photography. Yearbook is a great opportunity to gain real-life experiences."

- **Sophie Guo (12)**



"Being able to put stories and memories into the yearbook and see how people have changed over the years. Also, being able to listen to music freely!"

- **Jeremiah Ebel (12)**

why are you on STUCO?



"We get to plan fun events and fundraisers that proclaim the Lord's name! Also, we get out of classes sometimes."

- Sarah Simmons (12)



"I ran for STUCO in hopes of giving the student body a voice in the issues. I wanted to make school more enjoyable for everyone."

- Andrew Winsterman (12)



"I wanted to take people's ideas and try to make them happen for real."

- Trevor Cumpston (10)

While student council is known for pep rallies, games, and ice cream socials, the 2016-2017 student council (STUCO) wanted to be remembered for something else: outreach. It was with that in mind that the STUCO launched its March initiative: a month of giving and prayer.

During the first giving week, students brought powdered milk to be sent to an orphanage in Haiti. The second giving week found students bringing disposable diapers for the Columbus Youth for Christ. The third giving week asked students to literally give of themselves, as it culminated in the annual Red Cross Blood Drive.

The other aspect of the month was prayer,

and each class spent a week praying for a missionary somehow connected with NC, either as an alum or a friend of a current student or staff member.

Student Council President **Juan Lasso Velasco (12)** said of the initiative, "The student council and I sought a way to positively impact the community around us. We thought that devoting a month to giving and praying would ignite a passion for service that would manifest in action. Since we are commanded by God to show love towards others through service, it is essential that we promote this value and heart of service within our school."

- Miss Becky Ritta

1. Student Council Secretary **Sarah Simmons (12)** and Senior Class Co-President **Morgan Schulze (12)** decorate the high school hallway for homecoming. Over the past several years, the STUCO has made it a priority to decorate the hallway prior to homecoming to promote school spirit throughout the week.

2. **Marilla Flynn (12)** explains why the student body should vote for her during the campaign speeches prior to student council elections. Flynn's speech was successful, as she was elected student council vice president. Everyone running for a student council office had to make a campaign speech.

3. STUCO Treasurer **Katie Nyberg (11)** makes an announcement over the intercom. The student council officers often used the intercom to inform the student body of upcoming events.

4. Seventh grade class president **Tyler Cumpston** organizes the snacks in the canteen area during the Red Cross Blood Drive. All student council members took turns volunteering at the drive throughout the day.

5. STUCO Vice President **Marilla Flynn (12)** and President **Juan Lasso Velasco (12)** discuss plans for an upcoming event during a lunch meeting. Because all four officers had the same lunch period, most event planning took place during lunch meetings in the office.

Encouraging Service

Student Council

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Buzzing In

Quiz bowl is all about knowledge-what and how much you know. For NC quiz bowl students, however, it is more than that.

It's about using the gifts and skills God has given them to glorify and honor Him, and they've certainly done just that. This year, the quiz bowl team success can be described best by their coach **Mrs. Dee Flynn**, "We tied for 5th at state. We were up against Class A schools and were contenders for the championship! We were a very well-rounded team with each team member having a particular strength...I'm really proud of our team."

- Hailee Broman (12)

most embarrassing memory?



"More than half of the questions were all basically Greek for me...I didn't understand anything."

- Arwen Zhang (10)



"When asked for a famous sporting event in October, I answered too early and said the NBA finals."

- Trevor Cumpston (10)



1. Anxiously waiting for the the next question to be read, NC state qualifiers **Trevor Cumpston (10)**, **Brennan Nokelby (11)**, **Marilla Flynn (12)**, **Emily Halstead (12)**, **Danae Burdett (11)**, and **Ben Janssen (10)** participate at the state quiz bowl competition. These students worked incredibly hard all season and tied for 5th at state.

2. Posing for a quick picture after the meet, the junior high quiz bowl team shows off their success at the Goldenrod Conference meet at the Performing Arts Center in Central City. The team placed second at the meet.

Creating Masterpieces

Art has always been some students' favorite part of the day. It's a time when books are pleasantly absent, pencils are used for shading instead of writing, and minds can be free to create whatever they desire. Art class, as free and fun as it may be, is not always the easiest class. This year nearly 10 new art class members were added. Each could testify what a challenge it has been, but also what they have learned and how they've grown through it. As **Reagan Williams (12)** said, "Art class has taught me that I am capable of doing anything. Put your mind to it and anything can be accomplished." Williams' wise words are what make her and other artists such great additions to this year's art class.

- Hailee Broman (12)

favorite art project?



"My oil painting. I loved challenging myself doing something I've never done before."

- Wendy Bornmann (12)



"My mixed media project. It was both fun and interesting."

- Khanh Nguyen (12)

3. Concentrating greatly on the detailed shading of the hair, **Corina Ge (12)** works on a portrait of her favorite science teacher, **Mrs. Dee Flynn**. The incredible piece resembled every part of Flynn, and she was in tears as Ge handed her the portrait on Flynn's birthday.

4. Taking in the art at the Goldenrod Conference Art Contest, seniors **Janie Mousel**, **Dayna James**, and **Taylor Morris** see which pieces the judges liked. This year the conference art contest added some fun group activities and honored some of their favorite pieces. Many ribbons were won, resulting in a fun and successful day.



Spelling Out

This year, the Nebraska Christian elementary and junior high spellers put forth their best effort at the Merrick County Spelling Bee and came out with great success. All of our junior high participants made it to the oral round, and **Tyler Cumpston (7)** placed second and **Olivia Janssen (8)** won. On the elementary level, **Landen Leonard (5)** placed second. All of the spellers did outstanding jobs, and it was a great year for the hard working students.

- Hailee Broman (12)

hardest word to spell?



"Bureaucracy. That was the word I got out on in the spelling bee."

- Tyler Cumpston (7)



"Vulcanize. On this word, I spelled it with an 'o.' Luckily I didn't get out. At this point it was down to Tyler and me."

- Olivia Janssen (8)



1. Focused on correcting his mistakes on the recent round, **Daniel Musgrave (7)** continues his dedication to making it to the final round. Musgrave, along with many other students, were just a few words away from placing in the final round.

2. Junior High Spelling Bee qualifiers (clockwise from top left) **McKenna Leonard (8)**, **Daniel Musgrave (7)**, **Chantz Stuhmer (7)**, **Tyler Cumpston (7)**, and **Olivia Janssen (8)** pose for a quick picture before the spellers head to Dairy Queen for a post-spelling bee treat. The students earned every bit of their successes and pulled through with excellence.



Memorizing Lines

Lines, lines and more lines. That's the story of the elementary musical. **Sarah Lasso (6)** conquered the memorizing, saying, "The most impactful part was when the Vikings were singing and I was playing Princess Pirate. It was very rewarding, and even though it was hard at times, once you get into the play it's so much fun."

Learning lines, remembering to move, and tolerating itchy stage makeup are all things that elementary students normally don't have to think about. The annual Patch the Pirate musical is definitely a step out of their comfort zone, but the grand result is so worth it, and many would do it all over again in a heartbeat.

- Hailee Broman (12)

favorite musical memory?



"I loved our song 'We Are the Vikings' because it was active and exciting."

- Christian Strobel (5)



"I liked it when they dropped the map in the fire because it didn't actually make it in the fire. That was funny."

- Emma Broman (3)

Spelling Bee & Elementary Play



2. **Speech.** Front to back, from left. Row 1: Hailee Broman (12), Stephanie Strobel (9), Jeremiah Ebel (12), Danae Burdett (11), Wendy Bornmann (12). Row 2: Arwen Zhang (10), Marilla Flynn (12), Jessica Hilderbrand (11), Micah Loy (9), Madison Felt (10), Assistant Coach Rachel Hicks. Row 3: Alex Hao (12), Eva Liu (9), Lydia Langemeier (11), Bekah Feddersen (10), Morgan Schulze (12), Cole Ruybalid (12), Head Coach Charissa Smith, Assistant Coach Ruth Ferris.

3. **Boys' Basketball.** Front to back, from left. Row 1: Harry Nguyen (12), Andrew Winsterman (12). Row 2: Tim Hofmann (11), Joel Poppe (11), Brennan Nokelby (11), Ben Griess (11), Spencer Williams (11), Daniel Myers (11). Row 3: Kevin Yu (10), Bennett Zaruba (10), Cody Griess (10), Noah Boersen (10), Toby Watson (10), Hunter James (10). Row 4: Seth Hower (9), Noah Ralls (9). Not pictured: Head Coach Paul McHargue, Assistant Coach Andy Perlew, Garrett Nokelby (9), Trevor Cumpston (10).

4. **Girls' Basketball.** Front to back, from left. Row 1: Grace Wu (12), Katie Entz (12). Row 2: Jada McHargue (10), Olivia Prettyman (10), Carsyn Ostrand (10), Claire Ostrand (11), Corryn Falk (11). Row 3: Assistant Coach Nathan Musgrave, Kate Pipher (10), Anna Musgrave (11), Adrienne Falk (10), Alison Winsterman (10), Head Coach Erin Mankin. Row 4: Faith Franke (9), Arwen Zhang (10), Skylar Swantek (10), Jordan Schnell (9), Olivia Nyberg (9), Jayden Leonard (9). Not pictured: Assistant Coach Gordon Thiessen.

5. **Drama.** Front to back, from left: Kelby Gustafson (9), Halle Strong (10), Katie Nyberg (11), Faith Franke (9), Trang Doan (12), Lydia Langemeier (11). Row 2: Jeremiah Ebel (12), Juan Lasso Velasco (12), Sophie Guo (12), Alyssa Gustafson (10), Madison Felt (10), Amy Hilderbrand (9), Jessica James (9), Dayna James (12), Carsyn Ostrand (10). Row 3: Curt Bailey (10), Bennett Zaruba (10), Brayden Gustafson (11), Jon Dockweiler (10), Micah Smith (11), Anna Musgrave (11), Kate Pipher (10), Bekah Feddersen (10), Cole Ruybalid (12). Not pictured: Head Coach Karmen Hamer.

6. **Cross Country.** Front to back, from left. Row 1: Katie Nyberg (11), Talia Parlare (9), Addie Stutzman (9), McKenzie Schweitzer (8), Halle Strong (10), Shelby Swanson (8), Emily Halstead (12). Row 2: Brennan Nokelby (11), Andrew Feely (11), Jon Dockweiler (10), Garrett Nokelby (9), Curt Bailey (10), Ben Janssen (10), Noah Ralls (9), Josh Strong (home school), Ethan Merchant (7), Hunter James (10). Not pictured: Head Coach Scott Johnson.



6. Volleyball. Front to back, from left. Row 1: Manager Sidney McHargue (7), Kendyl Jividen (9), Stephanie Strobel (9), Manager Shelby McHargue (7). Row 2: Melinda Kim (11), Clara Chon (11), Gladys Choi (12), Cream Masatit (11), Jessica James (9), Faith Franke (9), Sonya Wu (11). Row 3: Jada McHargue (10), Jamie Myers (9), Alyssa Gustafson (10), Katelynn Halstead (11), Laura Carlson (10), Jayden Leonard (9), Emma Kaczor (10). Row 4: Manager Grace Langemeier (9), Corryn Falk (11), Carsyn Ostrand (10), Kate Pipher (10), Claire Ostrand (11), Anna Musgrave (11), Adrienne Falk (10), Lauren Feely (9), Alison Winsterman (10), Olivia Prettyman (10), Manager Cejay Mieth (10). Not pictured: Head Coach Tonya Ostrand, Assistant Coach Britta Landrigan.

7. Choir. Front to back, from left. (Master's Musicians noted with *) Row 1: Sonya Wu (11), Sharon Yu* (11), Talia Parlane (9), Tom Kang (12), Christopher Needham (9), Rocky Wang (11), Minh Vu (12), Phat Chau (11), Sam Qu (9), Melinda Kim* (11), Clara Chon* (11), Jayden Leonard (9), Stephanie Strobel (9), Kendyl Jividen (9). Row 2: Wendy Bormann* (12), Ann Nguyen (12), Faith Franke (9), Micah Loy (9), Garrett Nokelby (9), Bennett Zaruba* (10), Hunter Dixon (9), Kalob Green (9), Jeremiah Ebel* (12), Laura Carlson (10), Gladys Choi* (12), Katie Nyberg (11), Cream Masatit (11). Row 3: Danae Burdett* (11), Jamie Myers (9), Kelby Gustafson (9), Cejay Mieth (10), Jessica Hilderbrand (11), Ben Janssen* (10), Chase Tate* (11), Cory Ruybalid* (9), Cole Ruybalid* (12), Reagan Williams (12), Hailee Broman* (12), Janie Mousel* (12), Alyssa Gustafson (10). Row 4: Lauren Feely* (9), Grace Langemeier (9), Anna Musgrave* (11), Andrew Feely* (11), Brennan Nokelby* (11), Micah Smith (11), Tommy Flynn* (12), Seth Hower (9), Keith Wasomi (9), Alison Winsterman (10), Sarah Simmons (12), Katie Entz (12), Kate Pipher (10), Bekah Feddersen* (10). Not pictured: Director Mike Flynn, Marilla Flynn* (12), Katelynn Halstead* (11), Juan Lasso Velasco* (12), Daniel Myers* (11), Morgan Schulze (12), Luke Swanson* (11), Arwen Zhang (10).

8. Junior High Athletes. Front to back, from left. Row 1: Sidney McHargue (7), Alyssa Broman (8), Shelby Swanson (8), Olivia Janssen (8), Lizzy Powers (7), Tabitha Seip (7), Chantz Stuhmer (7), Aaron Jividen (7). Row 2: Teagan Haynes (7), McKenzie Schweitzer (8), Molly Griess (7), Shelby McHargue (7), McKenna Leonard (8), Jonathan Needham (7), Josh Strong (home school). Row 3: Tyler Cumpston (7), Daniel Musgrave (7), Cody Kaczor (8), Kobe Morris (7), Aidan Pipher (home school), Aidan Feely (7), Conner Broman (7), Ethan Merchant (7). Row 4: Elijah Boersen (8), Elijah Green (8), Zachary Egeland (7), Carl Mundt (8), Ethan Burdett (8), Grant Stuhmer (8), Tobias Zaruba (8), Dayton Falk (7).

9. Wrestling. Front to back, from left. Row 1: Head Coach Terry Elge, Manager Lauren Feely (9), Kalob Green (9), Manager McKenzie Schweitzer (8). Row 2: Andrew Feely (11), Chase Tate (11), Luke Swanson (11). Row 3: Juan Lasso Velasco (12), Jaydon Elge (12).

10. Boys' Track. Front to back, from left. Row 1: Minh Vu (12), Victor Thai (12), Andrew Winsterman (12), Jeremiah Ebel (12), Tommy Flynn (12), Harry Nguyen (12). Row 2: Samuel Twogood (11), Ben Griess (11), Micah Smith (11), Luke Swanson (11), Joel Poppe (11), Brennan Nokelby (11), Richard Zhao (11). Row 3: Bennett Zaruba (10), Baron Bai (10), Richard Li (10), Barry Zhang (10), Rocky Wang (11), Nick Vuong (11). Row 4: Ben Janssen (10), Curt Bailey (10), Jon Dockweiler (10), Jake Twogood (10), Toby Watson (10), Trevor Cumpston (10), Noah Boersen (10), Ryan Dexter (10). Row 5: Manager Josh Strong (home school), Garrett Swantek (9), Cory Ruybalid (9), Garrett Nokelby (9), Seth Hower (9), Sam Qu (9). Not pictured: Head Coach Carl Ostrand.

11. Girls' Track. Front to back, from left. Row 1: Claire Ostrand (11), Sarah Simmons (12), Katie Entz (12), Emily Halstead (12), Desiree Lutes (12), Corryn Falk (11). Row 2: Katelynn Halstead (11), Sharon Yu (11), Adrienne Falk (10), Carsyn Ostrand (10), Laura Carlson (10), Bella Yin (10), Katie Nyberg (11). Row 3: Michelle Huang (10), Hannah Kwon (10), Emma Kaczor (10), Olivia Prettyman (10), Halle Strong (10). Row 4: Stephanie Strobel (9), Lauren Feely (9), Grace Langemeier (9), Olivia Nyberg (9). Row 5: Faith Franke (9), Jayden Leonard (9), Jamie Myers (9), Kendyl Jividen (9), Talia Parlane (9). Not pictured: Head Coach Carl Ostrand.

12. Senior High Quiz Bowl. Front to back, from left. Row 1: Danae Burdett (11), Marilla Flynn (12), Arwen Zhang (10), Emily Halstead (12). Row 2: Curtis Bailey (10), Ben Janssen (10), Micah Smith (11), Brennan Nokelby (11), Trevor Cumpston (10), Andrew Feely (11). Not pictured: Coach Dee Flynn.

13. Junior High Quiz Bowl. Front to back, from left. Row 1: McKenna Leonard (8), McKenzie Schweitzer (8), Molly Griess (7), Shelby Swanson (8), Olivia Janssen (8). Row 2: Ethan Merchant (7), Grant Stuhmer (8), Aidan Feely (7), Carl Mundt (8), Ethan Burdett (8), Tyler Cumpston (7). Not pictured: Coach Tara Mundt.



1. Girls' Club Soccer. Front to back, from left. Row 1: Gladys Choi (12), Talia Parlane (9), Jordan Schnell (9), Desiree' Lutes (12), Hailee Broman (12), Skylar Swantek (10). Row 2: Grace Wu (12), Arwen Zhang (10), Madison Felt (10), Faith Franke (9), Coach Eric Zanger.

2. Band. Front to back, from left. Row 1: Morgan Schulze (12), Amy Hilderbrand (9), Lydia Langemeier (11), Talia Parlane (9), Shelby McHargue (7), Clara Chon (11), Teagan Haynes (8), Tabitha Seip (7), Kendyl Jividen (9), McKenna Leonard (8), Jessica Hilderbrand (11). Row 2: Jamie Myers (9), Alyssa Broman (8), Shelby Swanson (8), Chantz Stuhmer (7), Aidan Feely (7), Keith Wasomi (9), Marilla Flynn (12), Wendy Bottmann (12). Row 3: Daniel Musgrave (7), Molly Griess (7), Madison Felt (10), Micah Smith (11), Cory Ruybalid (9), Tyler Cumpston (7), Cole Ruybalid (12), Andrew Feely (12). Row 4: Seth Hower (9), Juan Lasso Velasco (12), Grant Stuhmer (8), Curt Bailey (10), Christopher Needham (9), Lizzy Powers (8), Bennett Zaruba (10), Ethan Merchant (7), Jonathan Needham (7). Not pictured: Director Mike Flynn.

5. **National Honor Society.** Front to back, from left. Row 1: Clara Chon (11), Cream Masatit (11), Desiree' Lutes (12), Hailee Broman (12), Emily Halstead (12), Andrew Feely (11), Luke Swanson (11), Juan Lasso Velasco (12). Row 2: Grace Wu (12), Wendy Bormann (12), Marilla Flynn (12), Claire Ostrand (11), Katelynn Halstead (11), Tim Hofmann (11), Brennan Nokelby (11), Sam Twogood (11). Row 3: Morgan Schulze (12), Corryn Falk (11), Anna Musgrave (11), Danae Burdett (11), Ben Griess (11), Harry Nguyen (12), Victor Thai (12). Not Pictured: Adviser Rachel Hicks.

4. **Student Council.** Front to back, from left. Row 1: Morgan Schulze (12), Vice President Marilla Flynn (12), President Juan Lasso Velasco (12), Secretary Sarah Simmons (12), Andrew Winsterman (12). Row 2: Treasurer Katie Nyberg (11), Brennan Nokelby (11), Trevor Cumpston (10), Lauren Feely (9). Row 3: Alyssa Broman (8), Tyler Cumpston (7). Not pictured: Adviser Becky Ritta.

5. **Boys' Football.** Front to back, from left. Row 1: Seth Hower (9), Hunter Dixon (9), Garrett Swantek (9), Micah Loy (9), Kalob Green (9), Cory Ruybalid (9). Row 2: Jake Twogood (10), Noah Boersen (10), Trevor Cumpston (10), Toby Watson (10), Justin Brock (10), Cody Griess (10), Barry Zhang (10). Row 3: Joel Kaczor (11), Sam Twogood (11), Tim Hofmann (11), Ben Griess (11), Spencer Williams (11), Luke Swanson (11), Joel Poppe (11). Row 4: Tommy Flynn (12), Andrew Winsterman (12), Taylor Morris (12), Benny Stevens (12), Jeremiah Ebel (12), Harry Nguyen (12). Not pictured: Head Coach Carl Ostrand, Assistant Coach Andy Falk, Assistant Coach David Gee.

6. **Conference Art Team.** Front to back, from left. Row 1: Hailee Broman (12), Wendy Bormann (12), Gladys Choi (12), Desiree' Lutes (12), Skylar Swantek (10), Jordan Schnell (9), Reagan Williams (12). Row 2: Alex Hao (12), Anna Li (12), Grace Wu (12), Keziah Dexter (11), Claire Ostrand (11), Katelynn Halstead (11), Dayna James (12). Row 3: Corina Ge (12), Ruby Yang (11), Eva Liu (9), Grace Langemeier (9), Stephanie Strobel (9), Lauren Feely (9), Jon Dockweiler (10), Curt Bailey (10). Not pictured: Art teacher Renate Johansen.

7. **Yearbook Staff.** Front to back, from left. Row 1: Business Manager Cole Ruybalid (12), Editor & Head Photographer Hailee Broman (12), Sophie Guo (12), Corina Ge (12), Jeremiah Ebel (12). Not pictured: Adviser Becky Ritta.

8. **Botany Class.** From left: Alex Hao (12), Morgan Schulze (12), Mrs. Dee Flynn, Dayna James (12), Danae Burdett (11), Daniel Myers (11), Wendy Bormann (12), Desiree' Lutes (12), Reagan Williams (12), Janie Mousel (12), Gladys Choi (12), Corina Ge (12), Hailee Broman (12).

9. **Boys' Club Soccer.** Front to back, from left. Row 1: Brad Hilderbrand (10), Khanh Nguyen (12), Jon Dockweiler (10), Barry Zhang (10), Rocky Wang (11), Sam Qu (9), Tom Kang (12). Row 2: Nick Vuong (11), Curt Bailey (10), Ryan Dexter (10), Ben Janssen (10), Victor Thai (12), Harry Nguyen (12), G Nguyen (12). Not pictured: Coach Clay Mankin.

Rising to the Top



1. The Quiz Bowl Team won the Goldenrod Conference meet and placed second at districts. That district finish allowed them to advance to the state meet, where they placed 5th overall. Front to back, from left. Row 1: Danae Burdett (11), Marilla Flynn (12), Arwen Zhang (10), Emily Halstead (12). Row 2: Curt Bailey (10), Ben Janssen (10), Micah Smith (11), Brennan Nokelby (11), Trevor Cumpston (10), Andrew Feely (11).

2. **Bekah Feddersen (10)** and **Danae Burdett (11)** both qualified for the State Speech Tournament in Kearney based on their strong performance at the district meet in Columbus.

3. **Jessica Hilderbrand (11)** and **Lydia Langemeier (11)** were selected to the Class C All-State Band, while **Molly Griess (7)** and **Tyler Cumpston (7)** were selected to the junior high band. This was the first year that any of our junior highers participated in the junior high all-state band.

4. For the third consecutive year, **Marilla Flynn (12)** was selected to All-State Choir. She also was chosen to sing the National Anthem at an NSAA championship event for the second consecutive year.

5. **Juan Lasso Velasco (12)** and **Jaydon Elge (12)** represented NC at the state wrestling tournament. Lasso Velasco placed 6th in the Class D 132-pound weight class, and Elge won the Class D 145-pound class. This was Elge's second state title, as he won the Class D 138-pound class in 2015.

6. Eight students qualified for state track at the district meet in Central City. At the state meet, **Andrew Winsterman (12)** placed 5th in the 200 meter dash. Row 1: Olivia Prettyman (10), Grace Langemeier (9), Laura Carlson (10). Row 2: Noah Boersen (10), Sam Twogood (11), Andrew Winsterman (12), Jon Dockweiler (10), Ryan Dexter (10).

7. **Brennan Nokelby (11)** placed 2nd at district cross country to qualify for state for the third year. He finished the Class D race in 24th place.

what is your favorite memory from state?



"I remember most vividly all the support I received. Texts, encouraging words, shoutouts -- all of them impacted my day and performance. I'm so grateful for the encouragement."

- **Danae Burdett (11)**
State Speech



"Random knowledge finally became useful."

- **Ben Janssen (10)**
State Quiz Bowl



"I enjoyed working with my director. She gave us excellent tips on becoming a better musician."

- **Lydia Langemeier (11)**
Class C All-State Band



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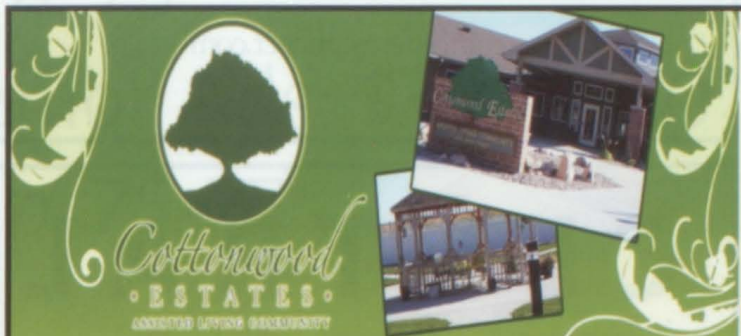
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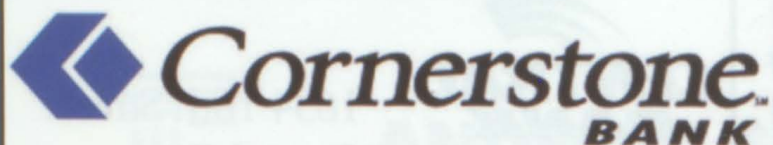
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Cole,

From Gerber Baby to Graduate, it has been a blessing to watch you grow into the young man you are today. We are so proud of your big heart and your willingness to be your own person. Continue to put God first and seek His will for your life.

Love, Mom & Dad

Proverbs 3:5-6: "Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. But, in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make your paths straight."



Morgan,

You have been an absolute blessing from the day God placed you in our lives.

God's richest blessings to you always!

Love You Bigger!

Mom & Dad
(Tim & Linda Schulze)



Hailee Jo,

Words can't even begin to describe how proud we are of who you are as a person and for how God has shaped you. You have set a tremendous example for your siblings with your outstanding godly character and your selflessness. You've brought so much joy and laughter to our home and your presence will be missed dearly! We are so honored that God chose us to be your parents. May you continue to seek the Lord in all you do, and know that we are always a phone call away!!

"We can make our plans, but the LORD determines our steps."

Proverbs 16:9

All our love, Mom & Dad



Sarah,

What a joy you are to our family! God has blessed all of us with your sweet smile and strong, loving personality. Your passion for helping others is evident in your actions. God will use your talents in unique ways on your journey.

Love,

Dad, Mom, Jake & Emily

Joshua 1:9 "Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go."



Jeremiah,

To the greatest uncle ever. I will

always be your most devoted fan!

Love,
Meg



Marilla,

Congratulations, 'Rilla! We are so proud of you! Can't wait to see how the Lord uses you!

Love,

Your Parental Units

"Sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all the earth. Sing to the Lord, praise his name; proclaim his salvation day after day. Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous deeds among all peoples. For great is the Lord and most worthy of praise; he is to be feared above all gods." Psalm 96:1-4



Dayna,

You are HIS, and He brought you to us ... And we are glad!!! We couldn't be more proud of you if we

had known you your whole life.

"But now, this is what the Lord says—he who created you, Jacob, he who formed you, Israel: 'Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have summoned you by name; you are mine.'" Isaiah 43:1

Love,

Dad & Mom (Chad & Ronda)

Where has time taken my little girl?
When did you become such a young lady?
As beautiful on the inside as on the outside?
If wishes were to come true,
I'd capture time and place it in a capsule,
To treasure for a long time.

I look back, there you are,
A newborn in my arms,
I blink and there goes my tomboy,
Running barefoot, riding her horse across the hills.

I turn my head and you are in Junior High.
I look up and now you are taller than me;

You have traded in your boots for high heels,
Your wranglers for bling,
Who would have thought such a thing!

One by one the older ones left,
I still had my "little Katie", but now,
Here you are all grown up!

As you prepare to 'fly from the nest',
Remember these 2 things:

Those country roads still lead home.
You will always be my 'Little Katie.'

Mom



Tom,

We wish you strength to face challenges with confidence...along with the wisdom to choose your battles carefully...we wish you adventure on your journey and may you always stop to help someone along the way...with God guiding, listen to your heart. We watch our children change and grow as seasons come then quickly go, but our God has a perfect plan to shape our son into a man.

Love you Tommy,
Dad, Mom and Zoe

3 John 4 "I have no greater joy than to hear that my children walk in faith."

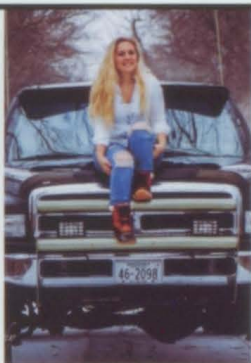


Benjamin G Stevens,

II Timothy 4:7 "I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith."

A dragon lives forever, but not so little boys....
You can still "home school college" any time you want.
"Being confident of this very thing, that He which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ." Phil. 1:6 We look forward to seeing how God works in your life. We are your biggest fans!

Love, Papa and Mama, Matt, Elizabeth and Abigail, Abigail Joy, Danny and Rachel, and Tommy



P Reagan,

Do what you love and love God while you're doing it!

Lovingly,
Dad and Mom

"Now to Him who is able to keep you from stumbling, and to present you faultless before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy, to God our Savior, who alone is wise, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and forever. Amen." Jude 1:24-25

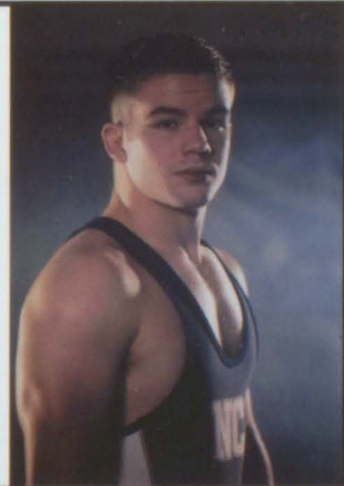


"For I know the plans I have for you declares the Lord ..." Jeremiah 29:11

Jaydon,

Your plans are set and your steps determined, and we trust God who has been a part of every moment this far.
God is with you, Mighty Warrior, and he will strengthen you and hold you as you journey farther from home but closer to your goals.
We promise to cover you in prayer and will be with you every step of the way.

Love,
Mom and Dad
Isaac
Meagan, Tyler, Roman, and Grayson
Shelby, Mike, Sloane, and Oakley



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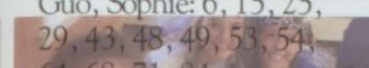
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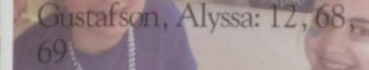


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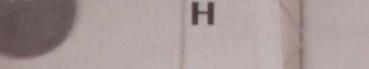
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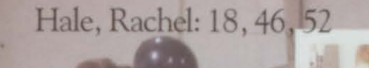
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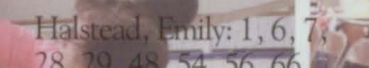
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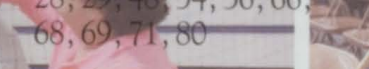
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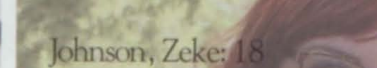
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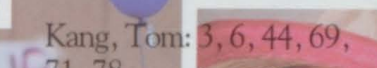
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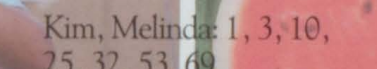
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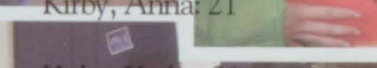
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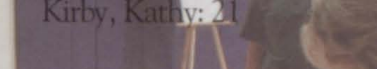
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Understanding God's Role

School is a place for growth. A place for preparing, teaching, and equipping students for the world ahead. But at Nebraska Christian, it's more than that. It's focusing on the the God-gifted individual and helping transform them into the best version of themselves that they can be. The reason that teams, classes, and groups of all kinds are able to accomplish what they do is all due to the amazing hearts of the individuals.

Nebraska Christian is a place where students can grow, work, learn, sing, jump, throw, kick, study and more all in an encouraging and Christ-centered environment. Students, no matter how much they may complain, are truly grateful for a school with a community

like NC's. The kinds of friendships and bonds that are formed are not something you find at just any school.

Any outsider can see that this school is something truly special, and that is all thanks to the individual students and staff, all created fearfully and wonderfully in God's image. No words can truly describe His amazing grace for this body. Through every loss and every win, every heartache and every celebration, each and every circumstance this school has gone through, the Lord has been there to provide for and protect the heart, minds and souls that make up the body of Nebraska Christian.

- Hailee Broman (12)

1. During the final E-Group session of the year, a girls' group—including (clockwise from top left) **Cejay Mieth (10)**, **Grace Langemeier (9)**, **Dayna James (12)**, **Shelby McHargue (7)**, **Madison Felt (10)**, **Trang Doan (12)**, **Michelle Huang (10)**, **Cream Masatit (11)**, and **Wendy Bornmann (12)**—circles up to pray for each other. Many of the multi-grade E-groups became very close throughout the year, and some even exchanged gifts at during the last E-group meeting.

2. Hard at work, mathematicians from the Junior class concentrate on their books as they try and solve a difficult math problem in their Algebra 2 class. The class specialized in dividing and conquering in this tricky class.

3. Bursting with laughter, **Gladys Choi (12)** slides abruptly into the water. The dorm students took various trips over the weekends, and one favorite destination was swimming at Timberlake Ranch Camps.

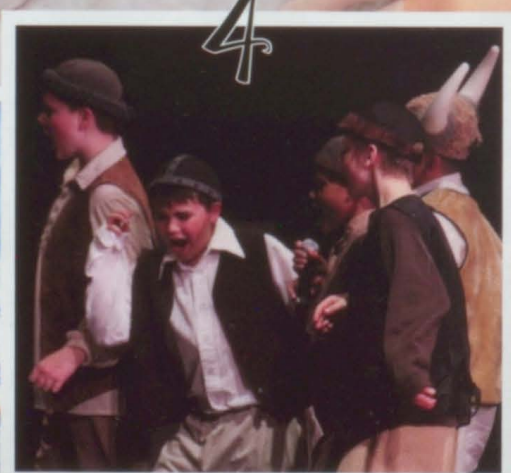
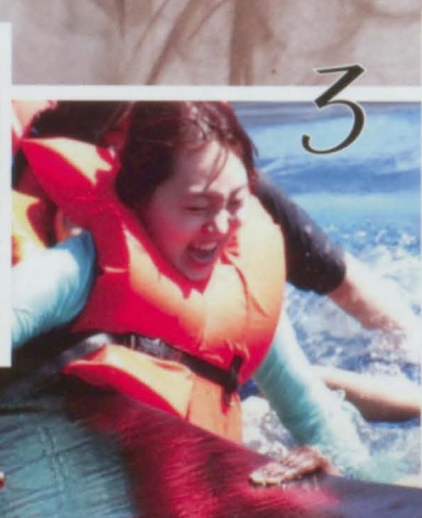
4. Singing together one of their favorite songs, "To Be a Viking," **Cooper Schnell (6)**, **Christian Strobel (5)**, **Christopher Medlock (5)**, **MaKai Bolanos (5)**, and **Drew Perdew (6)** act in this year's Patch the Pirate play. The play went very well, and the students had a great time participating in it.

5. Observing the different structures of the vine, NC botany members **Corina Ge (12)** and **Grace Wu (12)** listen to Prairie Creek Winery owner Nick Ryan as he explains the plant. The class made frequent trips to the winery and even started planting some vines of their own in the NC greenhouse.

6. **Conner Broman (7)** sprints across the school grounds during a game of tag during half-time of home basketball game. Home basketball games were always enjoyable, especially with spunky friends like Broman.

7. Creating a gorgeous sound, the tenor section harmonizes together at the annual Festival of Lessons and Carols. The Festival this year was suddenly postponed due to some weather issues, but the musicians didn't disappoint and came straight back with an even bigger sound than before.

8. **Ben Griess (11)** prepares to shoot a free throw during a home game. Griess was one of the team's best players and had a had great aim. The team was better with him, and all were grateful for his hard work and dedication to the team.



Continuing our Stories



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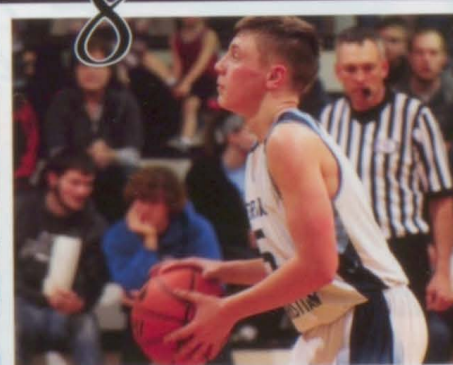


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The Creative Process

In previous years, thinking of the perfect theme, titles, cover and more for the yearbook has been somewhat of a struggle. Sometimes, the process of choosing a yearbook theme takes weeks and much debate. This year, however, coming up with ideas was a breeze. Although the yearbook staff was smaller than normal, the class never failed to come up with new and creative ideas. It was a small but mighty group that came up with the idea of having the book be about the individuals who make Nebraska Christian the school it is.

It all started when the phrase "Every Eagle Has a Story" popped up and inspired the entire team. The phrase begged questions like, "What is your story?" "Who is involved?" "Why did it happen?" "Where?" "How?" This made for incredible quotes and even better stories, which you will find placed sporadically throughout the book. As you read along, you will discover that what makes Nebraska Christian unique is found solely in the God-gifted individual.

The 2017 *Reflector* was published by the Walsworth Publishing Company. Keith McCoy served as the Walsworth Sales

Representative and also designed the cover based on input from the staff. Michelle Brosemer acted as the Walsworth Service Representative. **Miss Becky Ritta** was the adviser. School photos were taken by Marv & Kim Konz of Memories by Kim.

This year's staff consisted of a grand total of five seniors: editor and head photographer **Hailee Broman (12)**, business manager **Cole Ruybalid (12)**, and other incredible staff members **Corina Ge (12)**, **Sophie Guo (12)**, and **Jeremiah Ebel (12)**.

The articles and captions were typed in Palatino. Caption beginning phrases were *Futura*. Headlines were **Lunchbox**. Article headlines and questions were *HumanaSans*. Numerals and senior pages were *Persimmon*.

The 2017 *Reflector* staff would like to thank numerous individuals for supplying pictures to use in the book: Mr. William Feely, **Mrs. Daurice Hower**, Mr. Jeff Hower, Mrs. Susanna (Weiss '99) Poeffel of Creative Images, Mrs. Kristin (Hattan '95) Yale of Kristin Yale Photography, the *Republican-Nonpareil* newspaper, and many others.

- Hailee Broman (12)

1. Elementary students **Marisa Fetterley (6)**, **Amy Springer (6)**, and **Kylie Merchant (5)** play with the elementary band at the Spring Concert. The elementary band played two songs alone, and then the members joined with the 7-12 band for one final number.

2. **Riley Schreiber (6)** gets his book signed by David and Jason Benham after the brothers spoke at the PAC in Central City. Around 200 people attended the evening event. The brothers spent the next morning speaking to NC students.

3. **Morgan Schulze (12)** grins as she prepares to sew another quilt block. Quilting is just one of many skills the FCS students learned.

4. Glowing with happiness, **Alex Hao (12)** and **Janie Mousel (12)** make their way toward the stage as the NC band plays "Pomp and Circumstance." For the last few years, the band has played the traditional graduation march, and the audience always enjoys the live band performance.



Colophon

